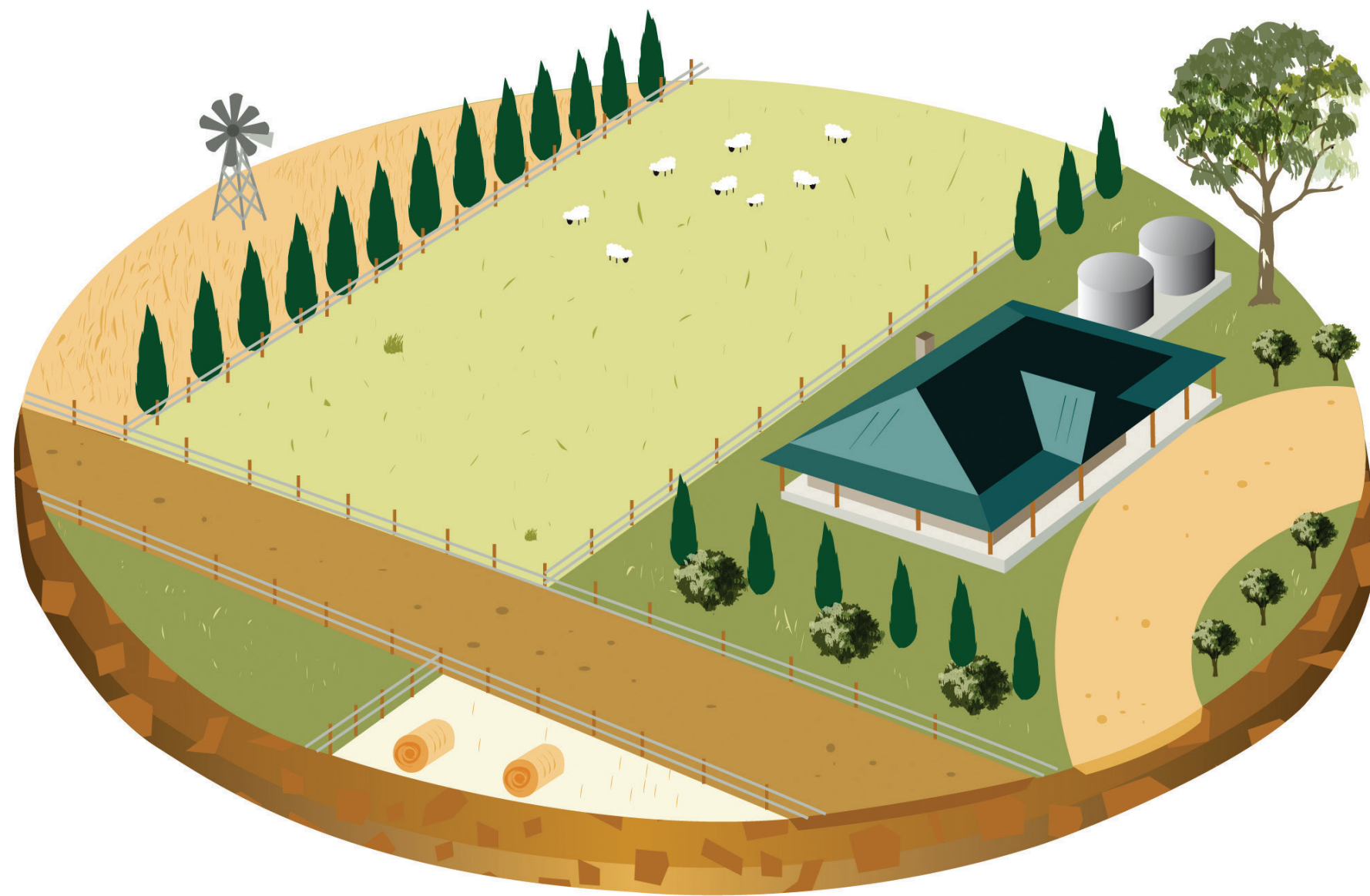


LIVING IN A HIGH-RISK ENVIRONMENT



**CLOSE TO OR AMONG
GRASS OR PADDOCKS**



**CLOSE TO OR AMONG
FOREST AND WOODLANDS**

CLOSE TO OR AMONG GRASS OR PADDOCKS

> KEY POINTS

Grassfires can be extremely dangerous.

- > Dry and brown grasses easily catch fire.
- > Grass more than 10 centimetres tall will have a higher flame height and intensity.
- > Faster burning than through forests as grass is a finer fuel.
- > Large amounts of radiant heat.
- > Fires that can start early in the day.
- > Faster moving fires that travel up to 25 kilometres per hour. In open grassland speed increases up to 60 kilometres per hour.
- > Grassfires can be started accidentally when using machinery such as chainsaws, lawnmowers, tractors and welders over summer.

Questions for discussion

Why does fire often spread faster in grassland than in forests?

(The distance between fuel points is minimal and grass is a fine fuel that can dry out more rapidly and burn very quickly).

CLOSE TO OR AMONG FOREST AND WOODLANDS

> KEY POINTS

Risk is most extreme if you live surrounded by or near forest that is difficult to see through. However, all forest or woodland presents a bushfire risk.

- > Very hot fire with many embers.
- > Embers such as twigs, bark and debris can arrive from far away.
- > Dangerous levels of radiant heat and fire intensity can be created.
- > Trees falling in high winds create more danger
- > Embers can land for a long time after the fire has passed.
- > Fine fuels (the thickness of a pencil or less) can burn very quickly.
- > Heavy fuels that will burn very hot for long periods of time.
- > A reduction in visibility due to very thick smoke.

Questions for discussion

Why do forest fires often produce more radiant heat?

(There is usually more fuel).