



What If?

Page 1 of 1

Name _____

Directions: What if a disaster hit your town? Consider the following possible results of disaster. What different problems do you think would be created for people by each result? List them under the specific consequence.

- Electric lines are down.
- First floors of homes are wet and covered with mud.
- Phone lines are not functioning.
- Roads are washed out or blocked by fallen trees or mudslides.
- Hospitals are inaccessible.
- People must abandon their homes for safer places.





Expanding Focus

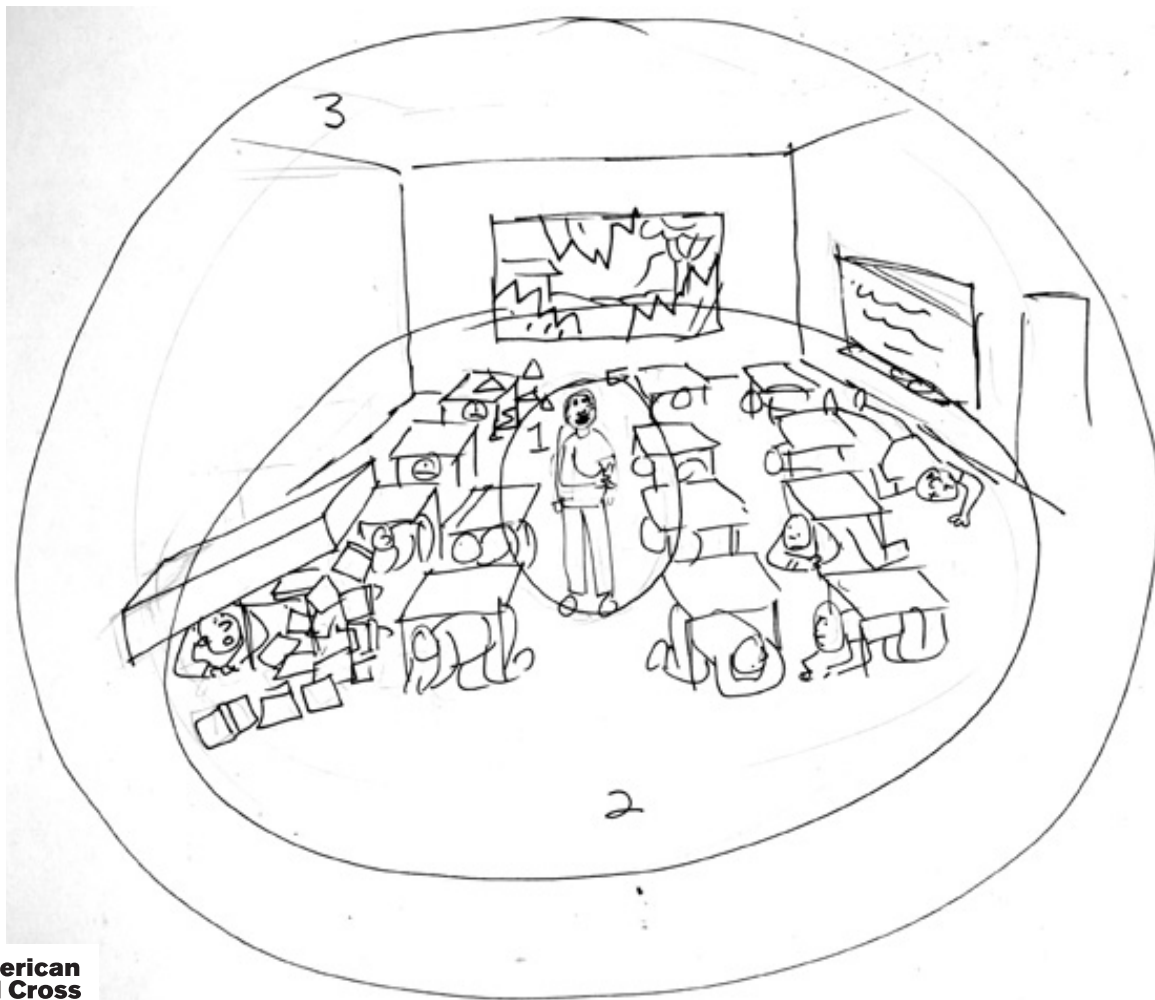
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Name _____

Directions: During a crisis, check the condition and safety of people in an expanding circle. First, check yourself, then others near you and, finally, others in buildings or areas nearby. Look at the picture.

- Pretend that you are the person in the first circle. Are you okay? Why or why not? Are you safe? Why or why not?
- Now, expand your focus to the people in the desks next to yours. Are they okay? Why or why not? Are they safe? Why or why not?
- Finally, look at the people in the third circle. Ask—Are they okay? Why or why not? Are they safe? Why or why not?

Answer these questions in the expanding circle graph on the next page.



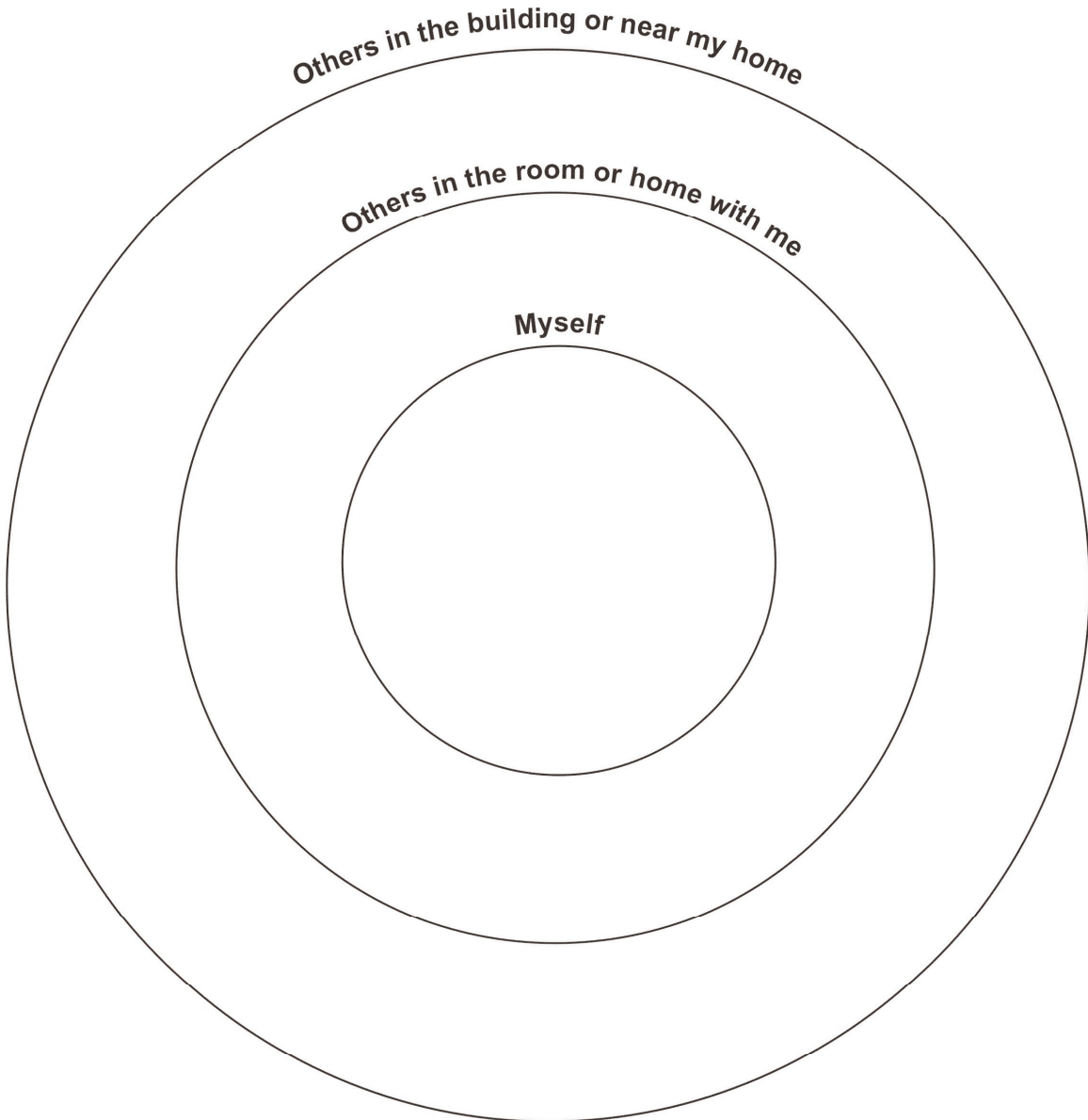


Expanding Circle Graph

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Name _____

Directions: During a crisis, check the condition and safety of people in an expanding circle. Use this chart to list people or places you would go to check people in your home and neighborhood.





Call 9-1-1

Page 1 of 2

Name _____

Directions: Practice making emergency calls and giving the correct information with play phones or disconnected phones. Keep this information to use in case of an emergency.

In most places, if you need a police officer, a firefighter or an ambulance, you need to call just one phone number: 9-1-1. If your community does not have 9-1-1 access, please use the correct number for emergency response:

_____.

Tell the emergency dispatcher three things.

Your name: _____

Your address: _____

(Or, describe where you are if you're not at home.)

Cross streets near your address:





Call 9-1-1

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The emergency:

Now, use a play phone or a phone that is disconnected to practice making the call with a friend or family member:

- Dial 9-1-1
- When the dispatcher answers, say your name and address clearly. Give cross street information, if necessary.
- Describe the emergency.
- Listen for instructions.
- Do not hang up the line until the dispatcher tells you to.

Be sure you know how to dial 9-1-1 from any phone in your home, including cell phones.

Important Information:

If the electricity is out, portable phones will NOT work. It is important to have one “plug-in” style phone in case of emergency.





Taking Shelter

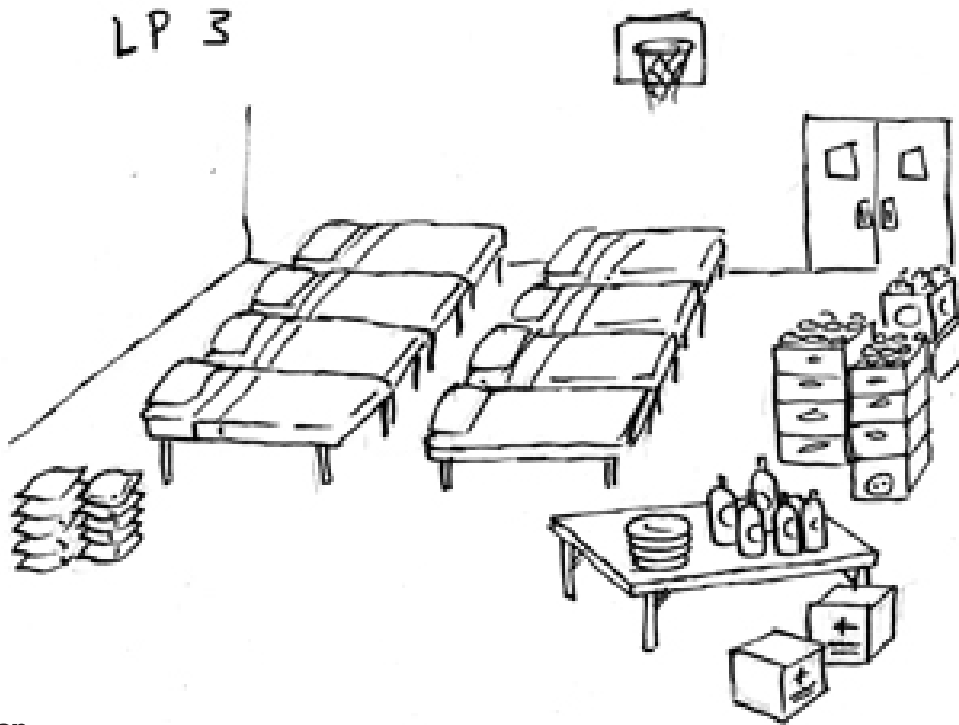
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Name _____

In a disaster, people are often told to take shelter. Taking shelter can occur in your own home, at school, at a workplace or in a community building that has been opened to the public. Taking shelter in the place where you are when the disaster occurs is called in-place sheltering or sheltering-in-place.

Sheltering-in-place can be short- or long-term. For example, in the case of a tornado, you may take shelter in your basement, a storm shelter or a closet until the tornado has passed. In the case of a winter storm that has knocked out power and made travel impossible, in-place sheltering happens at your location—home, school or business—over a period of days while you wait for power to come back on or the roads to be cleared. In the event of a hazardous materials spill in the neighborhood, you may be asked to shelter-in-place in the closest building by moving indoors, closing windows and doors and turning off air conditioning or heat while the hazardous cloud moves over your location and dissipates.

Taking shelter can also involve evacuating to a public facility considered to be a safe haven during whatever disaster has occurred.





Taking Shelter

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Directions: Read about the management of shelters—in your home, at school or at a public evacuation center—at the following Web site: Federal Citizen Information Center: A Citizen Guide to Disaster Preparedness—Shelter at http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov/cic_text/family/disaster-guide/shelter.htm. Then, answer the following questions.

What must you do to ensure that everyone who is taking shelter in a particular place is cared for properly?

How will life be different for the duration of the time you are taking shelter?

What will you have to give up?

What might you gain?

After you have read the information online, you will be given a shelter scenario. Assume that everything that is needed in the shelter has been provided. Write diary entries or a letter to a friend describing your life during the shelter experience. In your diary, include answers to the questions above and describe your experience of the sheltering as limited by the rules and guidelines described on the Web site.





Shelter Scenarios

Page 1 of 2

Name _____

Scenario 1—Sheltering-in-Place

The previous night, a winter storm closed in on your town. When you woke up, the snowdrifts were almost as high as your front door and the car in the driveway was completely buried. The electricity is out, but your home has a fireplace in the living room. You and your family are prisoners of the winter snow.

Scenario 2—Sheltering-in-Place

Although the day has been sunny and bright, ominous-looking clouds are darkening the sky in the west. A National Weather Service WARNING runs across the bottom of the TV screen: tornadoes have been sighted near your home. As the wind picks up, you decide to take the cat and stay in the basement until the storm has passed.

Scenario 3—Sheltering-in-Place

You live in a desert community. All week the weather in the nearby mountains has been warm and rainy. You are spending the night at your friends' home when the weather radio warns of a flash flood. Their home is not threatened directly and you go to sleep with no worries. In the morning, you find you are without electricity and the roads that could have taken you home are washed out.

Scenario 4—Sheltering-in-Place

You are at school when the tornado siren goes off. Your teacher hustles the class into the hallway, where you crouch down, your head, and wait. Soon the sound of hail hitting the windows and walls of the school signals the tornado's approach.





Shelter Scenarios

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Scenario 5—Sheltering

A serious heat wave has hit your region. Demands on the available electricity increase dramatically as the heat rises and people use fans and air conditioners to keep cool. Rolling blackouts create dangerous conditions for families with no way to cool off.

The city opens some public facilities as shelters against the heat. You and your family are among the first evacuees.

Scenario 6—Sheltering

You live on the West Coast. Unusual rainfall has softened the ground on which your house stands. While at school you hear about mudslides near your neighborhood. Your mother arrives to take you home and tells you that your home has been destroyed by the sliding mud. You and your family will join others at a local church to await developments.





Pets and Disasters: Happy Endings

Page 1 of 2

Name _____

After a disaster, there are many stories that highlight successes in preparedness and recovery. Some of the most wonderful stories are about pets that survived and are reunited with their families.

Here's a true story about Scrappy, a skinny, scared dog rescued in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina by Pasado's Animal Rescue.

Scrappy's Tale

Tremendous flooding followed in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Many families who had thought they would be "right back" after evacuation were not allowed back into their neighborhoods or homes for weeks, or even longer.

Scrappy was left at home because his family was unable to take him with them. Shelters didn't allow pets and they couldn't get to an emergency contact outside the city. Animal rescue teams began searching the city for stranded pets as soon as city authorities gave them the go-ahead.

It was several weeks after the storm had hit. The volunteers from Pasado's Animal Rescue team had been searching all day around flooded homes that were dank, dark, falling down or unsafe to go into.

One rescuer heard a rustling sound that continued to come from a home in a badly damaged New Orleans' neighborhood. He and his team decided to break into the front door to investigate.

There, behind a washer and dryer, they found Scrappy. He was scared and skinny. He had gone for weeks without food. Quickly, he was bundled up and on his way to Pasado's Safe Haven. The rescue team took a photo of Scrappy that, along with the address of where he was found, would help them track Scrappy's owner. Scrappy was also assigned a number. This number was left on a card tacked onto the house, along with contact information, helping returning evacuees find their rescued pup.





Pets and Disasters: Happy Endings

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Scrappy and many other rescued pets were flown to California. There, Scrappy was cared for, both physically and emotionally.

After three long months of searching, Scrappy's owners were found in Monroe, Louisiana, where they had settled when their home in New Orleans was demolished. Scrappy was brought back to Louisiana and immediately jumped into his owners' arms. Everybody was crying at this very happy ending.

(Adapted from "Pasado Rescue Happy Endings" at

<http://www.pasadosafehaven.org/KATRINA/HAPPYENDING/HappyEnding.htm>.)

Directions: Talk about Scrappy's Tale. What makes it a good story of survival after a disaster? List the essential ingredients. Now, use the list to write an outline for your own pet survival tale with a happy ending.



**American
Red Cross**



Emergency WATCHES and WARNINGS

Page 1 of 2

Name _____

It is important to understand what emergency bulletins on radio and television mean and whether or not they apply to you.

WATCH

A severe weather WATCH means:

Severe weather may be on the way. Be ready to take steps to get to safety if conditions become worse.

WARNING

A severe weather WARNING means:

Severe weather is happening right now. Get to safety right away.

What kinds of severe weather or emergencies might you experience near your home?





Emergency WATCHES and WARNINGS

Page 1 of 2

Where do you live?

City or Town: _____

County or Parish: _____

State, Province or Territory: _____

Area within the state, province or territory: (Circle any that apply.)

North South Central East West

Area within the county or parish: (Circle any that apply.)

North South Central East West

Nearest and most notable geographic landmarks: (rivers, mountains and lakes)





Get Prepared

Page 1 of 2

Name _____

Directions: You are part of a radio production team. You have been assigned to write a 10-, 20- or 30-second public service announcement for one of the steps for preparedness. Follow these steps to prepare and present your announcement.

1. Step # ____: _____

2. Words and concepts to include:



3. Before writing the script, discuss—

Why should people stop and listen to this message?

How can we focus on the positive?

What is the “hook” that will catch their attention?

What is our “call to action”?





Get Prepared

Page 2 of 2

Check the facts. Is your information correct?

4. Get to the point. You don't have much time or many words.

Timing	Word Count
10 seconds	20–25 words
20 seconds	40–50 words
30 seconds	60–75 words

5. On another sheet of paper, write your public service announcement. Practice delivering the announcement for clarity and timing. Be ready to present the announcement to the class for critique.





Danger Signs

Page 1 of 1

Name _____

There are many dangers that can affect your community. Look at the list of disasters and discuss whether these disasters can happen where you live. Write the names of the disaster in the correct area in the chart below.

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Flood | Small earthquake |
| Drought or heat wave | Tornado |
| Hurricane | Tsunami |
| Large earthquake | Wildland fire |
| Lightning | Winter storm |
| Residential fire | |

High Frequency	High Magnitude	High Frequency	Low Magnitude
Low Frequency	High Magnitude	Low Frequency	Low Magnitude
Unlikely to Occur			

Discuss—What are the most important disasters for which our community must be prepared?





What Do We Do When...?

Page 1 of 1

Name _____

Emergency Response Actions

- A. Evacuation (go outside)
- B. Reverse Evacuation (go inside)
- C. Lockdown
- D. Move to tornado-safe spot
- E. Drop, cover and hold on

Directions: Read the following scenarios that might take place at school. From the list of actions above, select one or more actions that will help make you safer in each situation. Write the letter or letters of the appropriate action next to the situation. Remember that in an actual emergency, it is important to follow the directions of teachers, school personnel and emergency responders such as police officers and firefighters.

1. The weather is stormy, with thick clouds in the sky, heavy rain and hail. We hear thunder and see that the sky looks a bit green.

2. In the school library, we hear a roaring sound and feel the ground begin to shake.

3. We are outdoors during lunchtime and hear the sound of gunfire in the distance.

4. In the science room, a student drops a glass bottle of something that smells really horrible.

5. We hear the sound of a helicopter and look out the classroom window to see two police helicopters and a news helicopter hovering overhead.

6. We are out on the field when we hear the sound of thunder. Less than 30 seconds later, we see a flash of lightning.

7. We are in the classroom when we hear the fire alarm.





Help Reduce Hazards

Page 1 of 2

Name _____

Making your home safer is a key part of any family disaster plan. During a disaster objects in your home can cause injury or damage. Anything that can move, fall, break or cause a fire is a home hazard.

Consider these points as you walk around your home and reduce the hazards.

- Secure items that can shift or fall
- Look in every room to see what could tip over or fall during an earthquake or if a child climbs on it.
- Attach tall furniture like bookcases and cabinets to wall studs.
- Secure televisions, computers and other heavy items to shelves or walls.
- Hang heavy objects, such as large pictures or mirrors, away from beds and chairs.
- Make sure that the water heater is strapped to studs.
- Install secure latches or locking devices on all cabinet doors.

Check for fire hazards

- Keep lighters, matches and candles out of the reach of children.
- Keep space heaters and candles away from curtains and furniture.
- Never leave a lighted candle alone or with children.
- Make sure that flammable items are away from heat sources—fireplaces, stovetops or lamps.
- Store hazardous and flammable materials on low shelves in locked cupboards, away from heat sources and children.





Help Reduce Hazards

Page 2 of 2

General safety

- Keep hallways and stairs clear of obstacles to prevent tripping and ensure easy evacuation.
- Keep electric cords and other obstacles away from evacuation paths.
- Make sure that there are two clear and safe exits from every room in your home.
- Place and maintain smoke alarms on each level of your home, inside and outside each bedroom and right outside the kitchen.
- Identify and secure any areas in your home that should be “off limits” to children.
- Identify any areas outside your home that should be off limits to children because of the danger of flood, flash flood or other hazards.

Keep this sheet as part of your family disaster plan.





Family Contact Plan

Page 1 of 1

Name _____

Staying in contact is part of any good family disaster plan. Go through the checklist below to make sure your family has correct information. Then, fill in *My Yellow Pages* with the names and numbers your family needs.

Everyone in our family knows—

- His or her full name, complete address, phone number and the nearest cross street to our home.
- The full name of our parent, guardian and/or adult caretaker.
- Our family's meeting places:
 Outside our home (by a tree or streetlight) _____
 Outside our neighborhood (at friend or relative's home) _____
- If there's an emergency, _____ will pick us up from school.
- Where I keep *My Yellow Pages*, all the important numbers I need to stay in contact. (backpack, school bag or wallet)

Everyone in our family understands—

- How to call 9-1-1 in an emergency. We know what a real emergency is. If there is a fire, we get out of the building BEFORE we call 9-1-1.
- Our family has a corded, touch-tone phone that does not require electricity, in case the power is out.
- We know that calling 9-1-1 from a cell phone means that the dispatcher may not have our location or be able to call us back. Even if our number has been cancelled or there are no more minutes in our plan, we can use a cell phone to call 9-1-1. The only thing to remember is to keep the cell phone charged—it won't work if the battery is dead.
- If there is an emergency during school, it could be quite awhile before someone from the family arrives. It's important to leave school only with adults designated on the school's emergency information sheet.
- If local phones don't work, our family will call our out-of-town emergency contact:

- If possible, and phones are not working, we can e-mail emergency contacts that are listed on *My Yellow Pages*.
- If the phones don't work, we need to be patient and remember that our family knows how to stay safe in an emergency.
- Everyone in the family must keep *My Yellow Pages* information up-to-date.

Keep this sheet as part of your family disaster plan.





My Yellow Pages

Page 1 of 1

Name _____

These are important phone numbers that all my family knows.

My emergency information

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Nearest cross street to my home: _____

Local emergency number is 9-1-1 or _____

Family members' contact information when I'm at school

Name: _____ Daytime Phone: _____

Cell: _____ E-mail: _____

Name: _____ Daytime Phone: _____

Cell: _____ E-mail: _____

Neighbor's, friend's or relative's contact information

Name: _____ Daytime Phone: _____

Cell: _____ E-mail: _____

Name: _____ Daytime Phone: _____

Cell: _____ E-mail: _____

Name: _____ Daytime Phone: _____

Cell: _____ E-mail: _____

Out-of-town contact's information

Name: _____ Daytime Phone: _____

Cell: _____ E-mail: _____





Family Disaster Supplies Kit

Page 1 of 2

One important step in any family disaster plan is to have needed supplies ready. It's a good idea to prepare to be on your own, without power or running water, for three days or more. Any extra supplies will help, so do the best you can.

Complete this list as a family. Put a check mark by those items you already have and leave the check box blank by those items you plan to get.

- Water (1 gallon (4 liters) per person per day for drinking and washing)
- We need _____ gallons (liters) for _____ people.
- Food (packaged, canned or dried foods that will not spoil, plus serving utensils and a nonelectric can opener)
- We have enough food for _____ days.
- We have food for special diets (babies, elderly or infirm).
- We have utensils.

Medical Needs

- Extra supplies of essential medications and a list of medicines, including dosage
- First aid kit and handbook
- Extra eyeglasses
- Other needs, such as hearing aid batteries _____

Tools

- Battery-powered radio or NOAA radio with extra batteries
- Flashlights with extra batteries
- Tool kit
- Duct tape and heavy plastic sheeting to cover windows and doors





Family Disaster Supplies Kit

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Sanitation Supplies

- Soap or hand cleaner and cleaning supplies
- Plastic bags
- Bleach
- Toilet paper and other essential paper goods

Special Supplies

- For baby or other family members _____
- Emergency kit in the car (water, food, first aid supplies and walking shoes.)
- Pet supplies (food, carrier or leash and extra water for a large animal)

Check your family disaster supplies kit regularly to replace items that become out-of-date, replace batteries or update special needs. For a more detailed list, check the American Red Cross at http://www.redcross.org/images/pdfs/code/disaster_supplies_kit.pdf

Keep this sheet as part of your family disaster plan.





What If...?

Page 2 of 3

A person who cannot see
Before an emergency situation occurs

During an emergency

After an emergency

A person in a wheelchair
Before an emergency situation occurs

During an emergency

After an emergency





What If...?

Page 3 of 3

A person who cannot speak or understand English
Before an emergency situation occurs

During an emergency

After an emergency

An infant
Before an emergency situation occurs

During an emergency

After an emergency



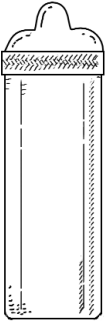


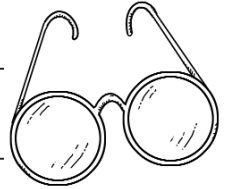
Plan for Special Needs

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Name _____

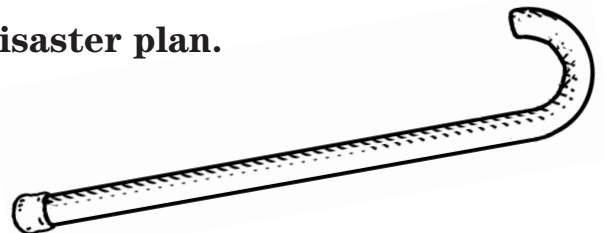
Every disaster plan must include planning and supplies for people who might have special needs. Some family members might need special medication; infants need special food and diapers; someone with reduced vision may need help reaching safety. What are some of the special needs of the people in your home?





Now, think about your neighbors. Is there someone in your neighborhood who might need extra help in an emergency? How can your family help?

Keep this sheet as part of your family disaster plan.





Plan for Your Pets

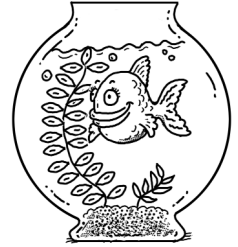
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Name _____

Every disaster plan must include planning and supplies for pets. Talk about your pet(s). What will each animal need in an emergency?

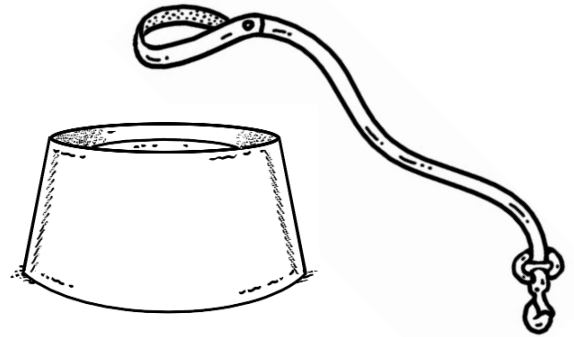
Name(s):

Type(s) of Animal:



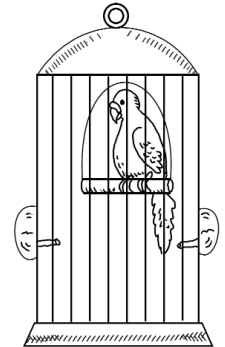
Living Space(s) and Transportation Needs:

Food and Water:



Special Needs:

ID Tags and Vaccination Information:



Telephone Numbers:

Veterinarian _____

Kennel _____

Animal-loving Friend _____

Keep this sheet as part of your family disaster plan.





Family Disaster Plan

Page 1 of 2

Name _____

Your family disaster plan includes ways to reduce hazards, a family contact list and a supplies kit to meet the needs of everyone in case of a disaster or emergency situation. Here are some final points to consider, including plans to get to safety and stay safe.

It is most important to discuss all the steps in your disaster plan and to practice safe actions for different types of emergency. Planning and practicing will keep your family safe.

Be familiar with the school's plan

- Students and parents know the school's emergency plan.
- If an emergency happens while children are at school, they must follow the direction of the teachers, principal or emergency teams.
- Students know to stay at school or with school personnel in the event of a disaster.

Neighbors helping neighbors

- Meet with your neighbors to plan how the neighborhood could work together after a disaster.
- Agree to check on each other in the event of an emergency. Form a "tree" where everyone checks on one or two other neighbors.
- Determine where children might go for help in the neighborhood.

If a disaster happens, we plan to—

- Drop, Cover and Hold On if there is an earthquake or explosion.
- Move to a safe place, in the basement or away from windows, and Drop, Cover and hold On if there is a tornado.
- Get out and get help if there is a fire.
- Get to higher ground if there is danger of flood.
- Stay inside if there is danger outside.
- Follow our family contact list.





Family Disaster Plan

Page 2 of 2

After the emergency passes—

- Check everyone around you; give first aid when possible and get help for seriously injured people.
- Wear protective clothing and sturdy shoes to avoid injury from debris.
- If the building is unsafe for any reason, get everyone outside quickly.
- Sniff for gas leaks. If you smell gas or suspect a leak, get everyone outside quickly, and turn off the main gas valve.

Next steps

- Listen to radio and television reports for instructions. Follow the directions of local emergency officials.
- Carefully confine or secure your pets with a carrier or leash. Remember, they may be frightened and might bite or scratch.
- Check on your neighbors.
- Stay away from fallen power lines.
- Following an earthquake, expect aftershocks that might cause more damage. Stay where nothing can fall or cause injury.

For more detailed information about a family disaster plan, check the American Red Cross at http://www.redcross.org/images/pdfs/code/family_disaster_plan.pdf

Keep this sheet as part of your family disaster plan.

