



Emergency Preparedness: Making a Plan for the Unexpected

Grade Level: 3rd – 5th

Objectives:

- Students will identify potential emergency contacts' names and contact information
- Students will understand the importance of emergency meeting places and suggest where their families can evacuate in case of an emergency
- Students will determine which community members (friends, neighbors, emergency officials) they should contact if they are hurt or need help
- Students will learn how to prepare for emergencies that can affect their community and how to respond to protect themselves and families

Materials:

- Index Card
- Pen or pencil
- Internet

Activity: Who Ya Gonna Call?

1. Provide students with three 3x5 index cards to create a Family Communications card.
2. Discuss the importance of emergency contacts with students and the benefits of listing this information in a safe place in case of an emergency.
3. Students will use the side of the index card with lines to print emergency contact information, similarly to the sample Family Communication card below (adapted from www.ready.gov).

Family Communication Card (FRONT)

Family Meeting Place – Outside of home: _____

Family Meeting Place – Outside neighborhood: _____

Class Meeting Place – Outside of school: _____

Class Meeting Place – Off school grounds: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Emergency Contact Phone Number: _____

Out of town Contact: _____

Out of town Contact Phone Number: _____

REMEMBER: DIAL 911 FOR EMERGENCIES

Family Communication Card (BACK)

Fire Station Name and Number: _____

Police Station Name and Number: _____

Hospital Name and Number: _____

Doctor's Name: _____

Allergies: _____

Medication: _____

Other Important Information: _____

4. Instruct them to complete the emergency contact number and out of town contact number with their parents/caregivers.
5. On the blank side of the index card, each student should include emergency officials contact information and important information such as doctor's name, allergies, etc.
6. Instruct students to review and complete their family communication cards with their parents/caregivers.
7. Notify students to place a family communication card by the home phone, on the refrigerator, and in their school backpack or wallet.

Discussion and Quiz Questions

Note to Instructor: Every family should be prepared before a disaster strikes, including the children. Therefore, this activity will help students mitigate any harm during an emergency and know how to respond quicker because they have an emergency plan for themselves and their family. After completing the activity, discuss the following questions to help students understand the importance of planning ahead for an emergency before one happens in their community. Also, express how a family communications plan will keep them safe regardless of whether they are with their parents or caregivers.

1. Who should you call if you can't get in touch with your parents or caregivers during an emergency?
2. What types of emergency workers are here to help you in case you need help or get hurt?
3. Do you know what some good meeting places are for your family to meet at if an emergency happens?
4. If you are at home and a fire breaks out at your house, where can you and your families meet up in your neighborhood?
5. If it's thundering and lightning and a flood blocks the roads to your neighborhood, where could your family meet up outside of your neighborhood to connect and be safe?
6. How can you make sure that everyone remembers who they should contact, where they should go and what to do in case of emergency?