

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS



Wind makes kites fly, fire can keep us warm, and rain helps the flowers and plants to grow. But sometimes the wind can blow too hard, fires can get too big or it can rain too much. Each of these situations can become emergencies in an instant. Our job is to be prepared in case these events happen.

Of course there are many other types of emergencies we must be prepared for as well. This emblem will help you to be better prepared when an emergency strikes.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. _____ **Being prepared for home emergencies.**

2. _____ **Being prepared for natural disasters.**

3. _____ **Preparing your own disaster supply kit.**

4. _____ **Learn about how The Salvation Army responds to disasters in your community.**

5. _____ **Discover the power of nature in the Bible.**

Date
Completed

Leader's Signature

REQUIREMENT #1 - Home Emergencies

Emergencies can happen at any given moment. A fire can start on the stove, an earthquake can strike or a severe storm may occur. What we need to know is how to be prepared for them and what to do when they happen.

What kind of emergencies should you be prepared for at home? List six here:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

With your Adventure Corps section, discuss home emergencies and how you should respond to them.

First Aid Kit

Later in this emblem you will look at a disaster supply kit. An important part of a disaster kit is a first aid kit.

Why is it important to have a first aid kit at home?

Every home and car should have a first aid kit. These types of supplies must be available when they are needed. **Check your home, car and corps for first aid kits - they should have the following items:**



Sterile pads
Adhesive bandages
Adhesive tape
Scissors
Tweezers
Cotton balls
Ice pack

Thermometer
Calamine lotion
Safety pins
Triangular bandages
Ace bandages (1" and 2")
Antiseptic cream or spray
CPR breathing mask

If you do not have a first aid kit at home or in the car, use the above list to create one. Make sure all of the corps kits have all of the supplies. Kits may be purchased from various stores and the American Red Cross.

REQUIREMENT #2 - Natural Disasters

On the news we often hear about and see disasters that have occurred around the world: some in countries far away and others in our own communities and cities. You may have seen other people deal with these emergencies, but have you ever wondered what you would do if you were involved?

Maybe you have already experienced a disaster. If so, what would you do if one happened again? In any case, everyone needs to be prepared. Natural disasters can strike quickly and with little or no warning. They can be very frightening.

A *disaster* is generally defined as something that happens that can hurt people and cause damage to utilities such as water, gas, telephones and electricity. *Natural* disasters involve the force of nature such as storms, tornados, earthquakes and fires.

Discuss with your Adventure Corps leader some natural disasters that you are aware of - you may want to consult newspapers and other resources for more information. What happened in these events?

Fire

Fire is the most likely disaster for families to face. Here are a few points to remember about fires:

- *Matches are not toys* - never play with fire.
- *STOP, DROP and ROLL* - If your clothes catch on fire, stop what you are doing, drop to the ground, cover your face and roll over and over until the flames go out.
- *Fire escape plans* - every family should have a fire escape plan that includes a place to meet outside the home if a fire occurs.
- *Smoke detectors* - every home should have smoke detectors in as many rooms as possible, especially the kitchen and bedrooms.
- *Never use the elevator during a fire* - fire can cause damage to the elevator and you do not want to get stuck in the elevator during a fire. Use the stairs.

Demonstrate to your leader the proper way to STOP, DROP and ROLL.

Thunderstorms

Thunderstorms can be very scary because of the sounds and the lightning. They can also be very dangerous. Here are some safety points:

- *Stay inside* - If you see or hear a thunderstorm, get inside a strong building or car. If you cannot get inside, get to a open space as quickly as possible. Crouch down and place your hands on your knees. Make sure to stay away from tall things such as trees, towers, fences and power lines.
- *Stay away from metal objects* - metal items can attract lightning.
- *Get to the shore!* - if you are in a boat, get to land as quickly as possible.

Tornados

Tornados are rotating, funnel-shaped clouds with swirling winds that can reach speeds of up to 200 miles an hour. They spin like a top and sound like an airplane or train and can occur just about anywhere in the United States. If you see a tornado, here is what you should do:

- Take cover.
- Go to a basement or storm cellar if possible.
- In buildings with no basement, go to the middle of the lowest floor.
- Get under a strong object like a table.
- If outside, try to get to a building with a basement. If that is not possible, lie flat on the ground in a ditch if possible and use your hands and arms to protect yourself.

Floods

You do not have to have a large river for a flood to occur. Any small stream or low-lying ground can flood. Fast moving flood water can easily knock a person down and even float a car!

Here are a few important safety tips about floods. **Explain why each one of the following is important:**

If you come upon a flood, turn around and go to higher ground.

Stay away from flooded areas.

Never try to walk, swim or dive into flood waters.

Never play in storm drains.

Earthquakes

An earthquake is the sudden shaking of the earth and can happen without warning. It can cause fires, explosions and landslides. It can also do great damage to buildings and homes. However, there are many things you can do to keep yourself safe during an earthquake:

- *Take cover* - get under a desk or table and hold on. If there is no table or desk available, sit against a wall. Stand in a door way.
- *Stay away from potential dangers* - during an earthquake, stay away from areas where things might fall on you (such as book cases and windows).
- *Wait* - stay put until the shaking completely stops. Be prepared for aftershocks.
- *When outside* - stay outside and move away from buildings, trees and power lines. Crouch down and cover your head. If you are in a car, stay there with your seat belt fastened.

Being prepared for these disasters is extremely important. Make sure that your local emergency telephone numbers are listed by your telephone. If you live in a 911 service area, know how to place an emergency call. Learn basic first aid techniques and if possible, complete a CPR course. All of these will help you to be better prepared when an emergency strikes.

REQUIREMENT #3 - Disaster Supply Kits

When a disaster strikes, basic community services such as electricity, water, gas and telephones may be cut off for days. Or, you may have to evacuate a home or area quickly. In these cases you will not have time to shop or search for the supplies you will need. These supplies need to be gathered and organized now, before a disaster occurs. That way, you will be better prepared.

The ideal disaster supply kit will contain the following materials:

- *Water and water purification system* - one gallon of water per person per day.
- *Non-perishable food* - ready to eat canned meats, fruits and vegetables, canned juices, long life milk, soup, etc.
- *High energy foods* - peanut butter, jelly, crackers, nuts, food bars, trail mix, etc.
- *Comfort foods* - candy bars, cookies and cereal.
- *First aid kit* - make sure this contains any family prescription medications as well.
- *Emergency supplies and tools* - battery operated radio, flashlight, extra batteries and small tools. Can opener (hand held) for can goods.
- *Clothing* - one change of clothing and footwear per person and one blanket or sleeping bag per person.
- *Sanitation supplies* - toilet paper, soap, trash bags and other personal hygiene items.
- *Special items* - needs for infants, elderly or disabled family members, extra sets of car and house keys, cash and credit card.

There should be enough supplies to last at least three days and they should be kept in sturdy, easy to carry containers (back packs, duffel bags, covered trash bins, large containers, etc.).

Store your disaster kits in a safe, cool and dry place that is known and accessible to all family members. You should also keep important documents in waterproof containers.

You will want to keep these kits in good order by changing the water, food and batteries every six months.

Why is a water purification system important?

What are non-perishable foods?

What would be the best type of milk to store for a long period of time?

Why are comfort foods so important?

With your Adventure Corps section, make your own disaster kit. Check at home to see if you have one, as well as at the corps where you are meeting.

REQUIREMENT #4 - Salvation Army Emergency Preparedness



The Salvation Army is very involved in emergency services. Because of our military structure The Salvation Army is able to respond quickly to the needs of a community when disaster strikes. Whether it is an earthquake, fire or flood, our disaster services and personnel are always on call, ready to assist those in need.

Organize with your Adventure Corps leader and corps officer a tour and/or information search about what types of services the Army provides in your local community in times of emergency. On a separate sheet of paper, write a brief summary of what you learned.

REQUIREMENT #5 - The Power of Nature in the Bible

As recorded throughout the Bible, God demonstrated His power through the wind, fire and rain. Moses encountering the burning bush and Jonah being caught in a storm on the sea as he was running from God are two examples of how God used the power of nature.

Match the Scripture verse with the event that occurred:

- | | | |
|-------|----------------|-------------------|
| _____ | Genesis 7:1-10 | A. Earthquake |
| _____ | Ezekiel 38:19 | B. Wind |
| _____ | Mark 4:35-41 | C. Fire |
| _____ | 2 Peter 3:10 | D. Rain and Flood |



Using a Bible concordance, find at least three other examples of fire, wind, rain, earthquake, thunder, etc. found in the Bible. Write down the Scripture reference and a brief summary of what occurred:

Scripture Reference #1: _____

Scripture Reference #2: _____

Scripture Reference #3: _____
