

# DISASTER CHECKLIST

## FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES



Save the Children®

Get Ready. Get Safe.

*Do you have a plan in place to help ensure your children are safe and secure if a disaster strikes? If the worst happens, your children will look to you to know how to react and respond. Use this checklist to help prepare and keep your children safe in a disaster.*

### MAKE A FAMILY PLAN

*Before a disaster strikes, make sure you and your family all know these details to help stay safe.*

#### YOU AND YOUR FAMILY SHOULD DETERMINE:

- Which facilities will be used as shelters in your community in case of emergency
- A designated meet-up location if your family is separated
- A family contact outside of your area who would not be affected by a local disaster

### TEACH YOUR KIDS

*Your children may need to act in an emergency.*

#### MAKE SURE THEY KNOW THE FOLLOWING:

- Basic personal information to identify themselves if separated from you
- Home phone number
- How to dial 911
- Family's meet-up locations
- How to reach the family's out-of-town contact

### HAVE A COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

*Communication systems are often unreliable during emergencies. Be sure to have a back-up plan.*

- All family cell phones should have "ICE" (In Case of Emergency) programmed into their phone's contact list with all family phone numbers plus out-of-area contacts.
- Remind family members that text messages often get through in an emergency, even when a phone can't.

## CREATE A GO KIT

*Prepare a backpack or portable bag for each family member with essential hygiene items and contact information in case you need to leave home.*

### BE SURE TO INCLUDE:

- Each child's contact and medical information
- Recent photos of each child
- Comfort food and treats
- Activity items like books, puzzles and games
- Comfort items like a stuffed animal or blanket

## STOCK UP AT HOME

*In addition to basic survival items like water, flashlights, a battery-powered radio and extra batteries, have these kid-friendly supplies on hand.*

### NON-PERISHABLE FOOD

- Nursing supplies
- Formula
- Pre-packaged baby food
- Ready-to-eat canned foods and opener
- Juice pouches
- Non-perishable pasteurized milk
- Dry cereals, protein bars, fruit snacks
- Nuts and nut butters
- Vitamins

### MEDICAL SUPPLIES

- Fever reducer
- Antibacterial ointment
- Rash ointment
- Each child's medications

### PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS

- Baby wipes
- Diapers
- Nursing pads
- Feminine products

## CHECK WITH YOUR CHILD CARE FACILITY

Since your children may be at a child care facility when disaster hits, make sure all caregivers have each child's most recent contact info.

Remember to ask the staff about their emergency plans. If they do not have a plan, you may want to ask them to create one.

*For more information and support, visit:  
[www.savethechildren.org/getready](http://www.savethechildren.org/getready)*