

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Coloring Book



American
Red Cross

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**American
Red Cross**

Fire...Hurricane...Flood...Thunderstorm...

Dear Parent or Educator,

News stories of disaster regularly make headlines around the globe. As you've watched others deal with these emergencies, you may have wondered what would happen if a disaster struck closer to home.

For parents or teachers of young children, the thought is even more troubling. How would you and your children cope? Perhaps you've already experienced a disaster — what would you do differently next time? The answer to both questions is clear. Be prepared.

This coloring book is designed for adults and children to work on together. Children can learn about fire, earthquakes, floods, tornados and other disasters, as well as how to protect themselves — all while having fun coloring.

Work through each section with children to make sure they understand the concepts and learn important safety messages. To help you do this, each coloring page is accompanied by key points to talk about and action steps to take. You may want to review this information before meeting with children. The coloring book ends with a "quiz" that can help you find out if they learned the information. From time to time, quiz children again and practice key steps to help them remember what to do.

Children are wonderful at adapting to situations when they know what to expect. By creating a family disaster plan, you can help children be ready to deal with emergencies. For more information, ask for materials about specific disasters and for a copy of Your Family Disaster Plan from your local office of emergency management (publication #L-191) or American Red Cross chapter (publication #ARC4466). Or write to FEMA, P.O. Box 70274, Washington, DC 20024, and ask for Publication #L-191.

Tornado... Earthquake... Winter Storm...

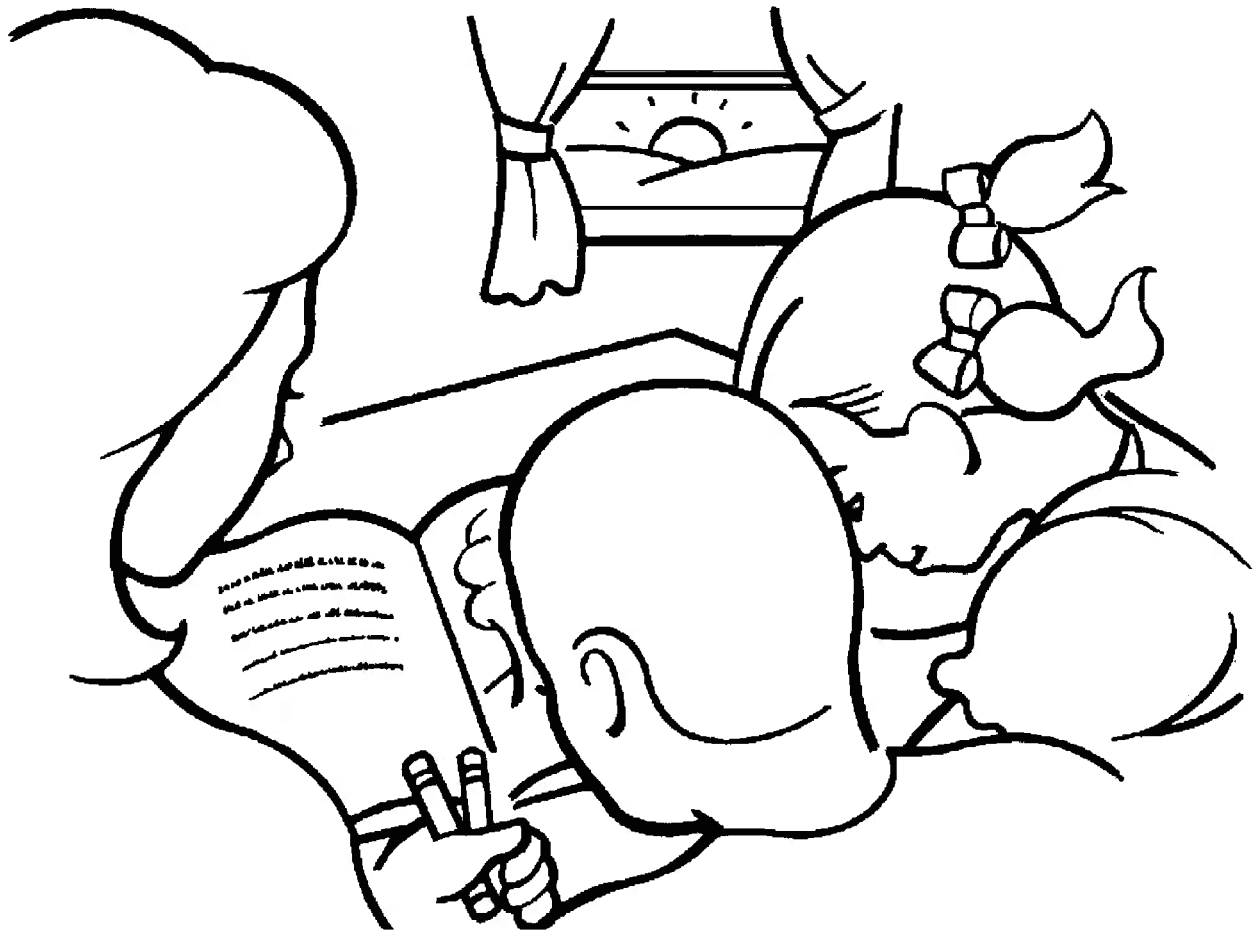
Hey Kids!

Wind makes kites fly. Fire can keep us warm. And rain helps flowers grow.
But sometimes the wind blows too hard, fires get too big or it rains too much.

Learn what to do when nature shows off!

This book will help you. But you'll need to ask an adult to work with you. Get
Mom, Dad, your teacher or an adult friend to read this book while you color.

Have fun!



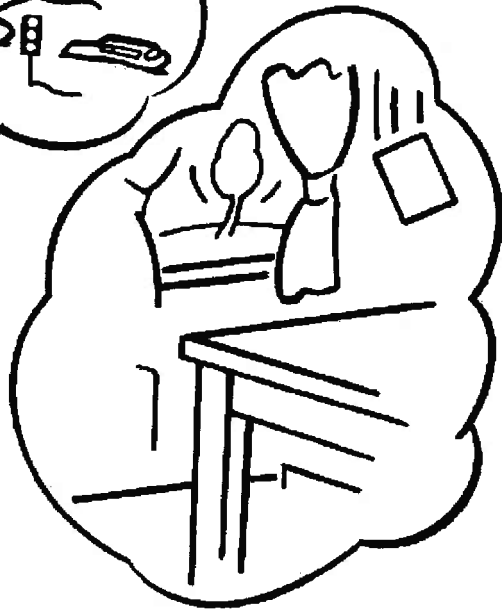
Natural Disasters

Disasters can strike quickly and without warning. While a disaster is frightening for adults, it can be traumatic for children if they don't know what to do.

Help children understand the concept of a disaster...

- Explain that nature sometimes provides "too much of a good thing" — fire, rain, wind, snow. Tell them that a disaster is when something happens that could hurt people, cause damage or cut off utilities such as water, telephones or electricity.
- Give examples of several disasters that could happen in your community. To get this information, contact your local office of emergency management or local American Red Cross chapter. Ask what disasters are most likely to happen and request information on how to prepare for them.
- Talk about typical effects that children can relate to, such as loss of electricity, water and telephone service.
- Explain that when people know what to do — and practice in advance — everyone is better able to handle emergencies. That's why we need to create a family disaster plan.

Nature is beautiful...and powerful!



Emergencies

Even very young children can be taught how and when to call for help.

Action Steps for Adults

- Help children recognize the warning signs for the disasters that could happen in your community. You can get this information from your local emergency management office or American Red Cross chapter.



- Tell children that in a disaster there are many people who can help them. Talk about ways that an emergency manager, Red

Cross volunteer, police officer, firefighter, teacher, neighbor, doctor or utility worker might help following a disaster.

- Teach children how and when to call for help. Check the telephone directory for local emergency telephone numbers. If you live in a 9-1-1 service area, teach children to call 9-1-1. At home, post emergency telephone numbers by all phones and explain when to call each number.

- Even very young children can be taught how and when to call for emergency assistance. If a child can't read, this emergency telephone number chart has pictures that may help him or her identify the correct number to call. As you explain each picture, have the child color the symbol on the chart.

- Take a first aid and CPR course. These are critical skills, and learning can be a fun activity for older children. Contact your local office of emergency management, American Red Cross chapter or hospital for information.

- At home, ask an out-of-state friend to be your family "check-in" contact. After a disaster, long-distance telephone lines often remain in service even when local lines are down. Tell children to call this "check-in" contact if they are separated from the family in an emergency. Help them memorize the telephone number, or write it down on a card they can keep with them.

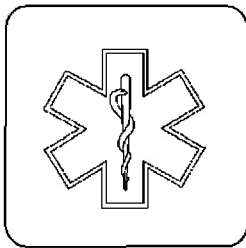
Emergency Phone Numbers

My Family Name: _____

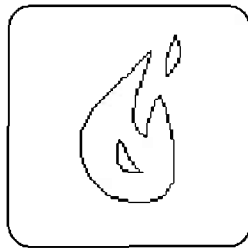
My Phone Number: _____

My Address: _____

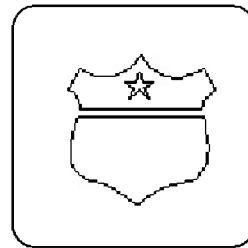
My Town: _____



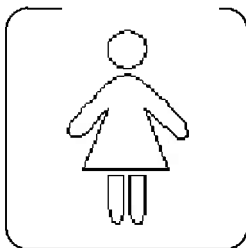
Ambulance



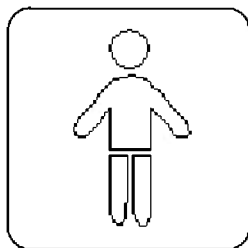
Fire



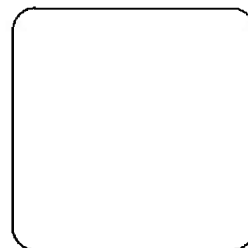
Police/Sheriff



Mother



Father



Other

