McLean County
Health Department
Partners in Prevention

200 W. Front St., Rm. 304 • Bloomington, IL 61701

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Dear Activity Director:

With the summer storm season upon us, the McLean Count y Health Department and Emergency Management Agency would like to encourage our youth and children to be more aware of, and involved in, emergency preparedness activities.

This Treasure-Hunt game has been designed for use during camp, vacation Bible school, or other summer activities for groups of children ages five through eleven. The children will be split up into teams (or individually, for older children) and given a piece of 8.5 x 11 inch construction paper or cardstock, ruled into 12 boxes. This is their Treasure Chest.

The copyright-free images below can be printed onto adhesive-backed paper. As each team successfully answers the question given to them at a particular station, they will earn another sticker to put on their Treasure Chest. They are done when they have successfully filled up the Treasure Chest.

The children can also color the images, as an additional activity.

We have included a feedback sheet at the end of the document and are eager to hear how your staff and your kids like this activity. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Shay Simmons
Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
McLean County Health Department
(309) 888-5987

Emergency Preparedness Scavenger Hunt

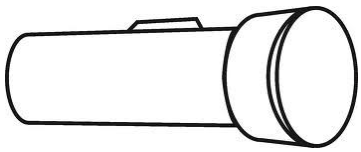
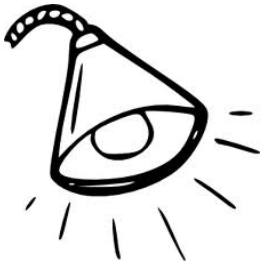
This scavenger hunt based on Emergency Preparedness can be done in one of the two following ways:

1. If there is enough room outside or a safe neighborhood nearby, the students may go in small groups (each group must include an adult volunteer) and go from house to house searching for the appropriate items that would be used in the need of an emergency. The first group to collect all 12 items and make it back to the start will win the scavenger hunt.

2. In a large enough room, 12 stations will need to be set up. At each station there will be one adult volunteer. The volunteer will read the clues to each group of students that will help them figure out which item fits the clue best.

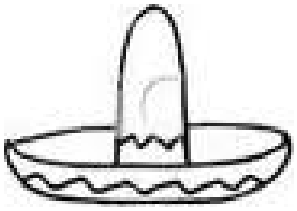
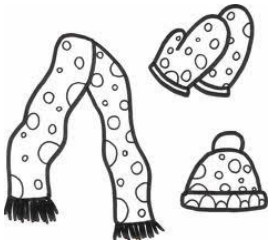
The classroom will be split up into small groups that will then travel from each station in trying to figure out which item best fits the clue. These items are what would be used in the case of an emergency. Once the students have picked the correct item, they will peel off the picture on the sticker sheet and place it in one of the boxes on their sheet. Once each group has all 12 boxes filled they must sit back at their table. The first group to be seated wins the scavenger hunt.

To have more fun with the items in their emergency kit, they may color the pictures!

1.  

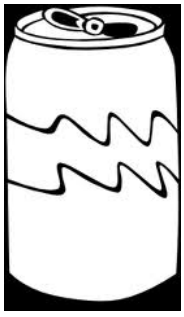
Adult Volunteer: how many here have been in a bad storm where your house lost electricity? Was it safe to be in a dark house, when you couldn't see where anything was? Your family emergency plan should include things that will help you see in the dark. Which of the items will help you and your family see when walking in your dark house?

You will use this item if the lights go out. It is very portable since it is handheld and battery operated. This item will allow you to see in front, in back, and to the sides of you by shining it around. It is fun to have and can be made in many different colors!

2.  

Adult Volunteer: how many here have been in a bad snow storm where your house lost heat? Do you think it is safe to be in cold weather conditions without the proper clothing? Your family emergency plan should include items that will help keep parts of your body warm that are most exposed to the cold. Which of the items will help keep your head and hands warm in cold weather?

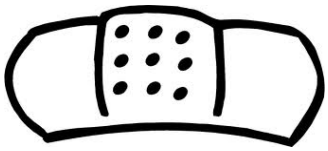
You will use this item if you suddenly have no access to heat. These can be worn on your head but also other parts of your body and will keep you warm.

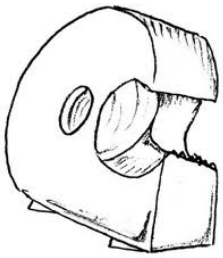
3. 

Adult Volunteer: How many here have been in a situation where you are told the water is not safe to drink? How many think it is safe for your body to be without water? Your body needs to have water that is free of contamination. Your family plan should include water in an item that is best to travel with. Which of the items would best help your family carry clean, filtered water?

This item is useful to carry around in case you run out or have no access to any beverages. It will keep you hydrated. This had a lid so it can be carried with you everywhere you might need it!

4.

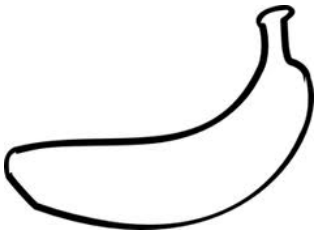


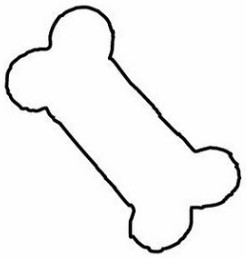


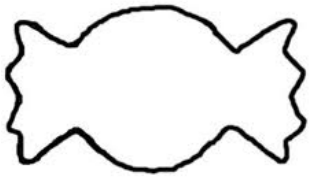
Adult Volunteer: How many here have been in a situation where they got hurt and began to bleed? Is it safe to leave a cut uncovered where possible infection might occur? Your family emergency plan should include a box of items that will help clean, sanitize, and cover any injuries that could become infected. Which of the items would best fit into the box?

These items are useful in case of an injury. You can carry them around in a first-aid box. They will help with cuts and prevent infections.

5.







Adult Volunteer: How many here have animals living at home? Do you think it would be safe for them to go days or weeks without eating? If you have animals at home, your family plan should include food items that are healthy for your pet. Which of the items would be the best option to feed your pet animal?

If you have pets, it is important to make sure they are kept fed. Even if a disaster occurs, you need to be prepared not just for the people in your family, but for the animals as well.

6.

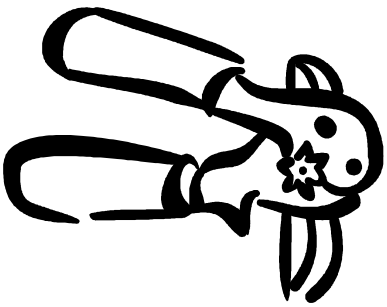
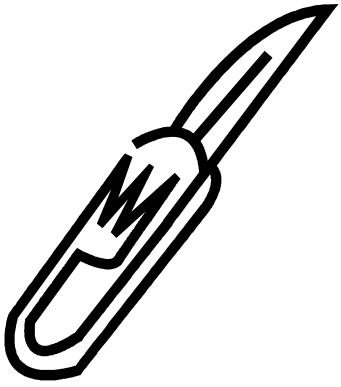
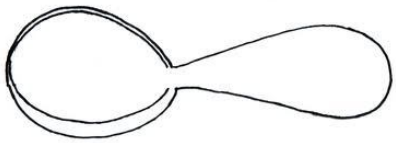
Adult Volunteer: how many here have been in a bad storm when traveling to buy food was not an option? How many here have been in a bad storm when the electricity goes out and the food in the refrigerator spoils? Your family emergency plan should include food items that will not spoil. Which of these items will not spoil and will stay safe for you and your family to eat?

In case of an emergency, you and your family should be prepared in case you do not have any access to food. You want to have food that is easy to transfer around and that will not spoil in a short amount of time.

7.

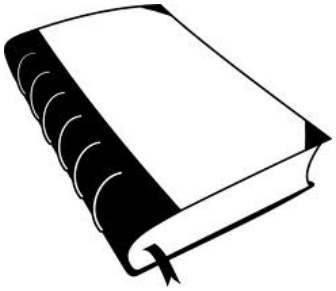
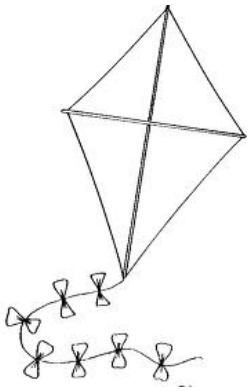
Adult Volunteer: how many here have been in a bad storm or fire where they had to leave their house to sleep for the night? How safe do you think it would be to sleep without the proper covering depending on the temperature? Your family emergency plan should include items that will allow you to stay snug and warm anywhere that you may end up sleeping. Which of these items would help keep you warm while sleeping?

In an emergency, it can be possible you will not be allowed to sleep indoors. Sleeping outside may result in cold conditions therefore you need something that will allow for body heat and warmth.

8.   

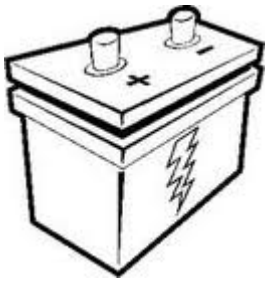
Adult Volunteer: how many here have been in a storm where the safest food to eat is canned food? You will need to use a utensil that is not sharp enough to cut you but will be able to open up the can. You family emergency plan should include items such as these to help with opening cans to satisfy the hunger for you and your family. Which of these items will help do so?

If having food in cans is the smartest way to save food in an emergency, it is important to carry around a utensil that will allow you to open the cans when needed. This item has no sharp edges that can allow for someone to get hurt. In any situation, utensils should be handled very carefully.

9.  

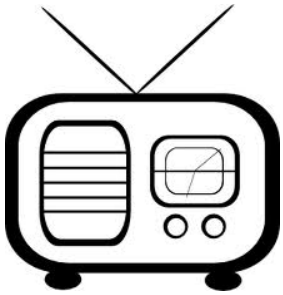
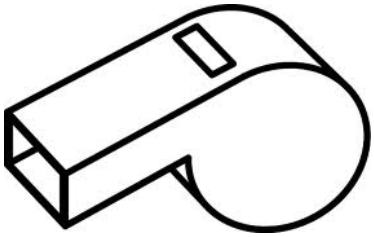
Adult Volunteer: How many here have been in a bad storm where the electricity goes out or the wind outside appears to almost be a tornado? People of all ages may become bored if they are stuck inside with no activities to do. Your family emergency plan should include items that will allow you to keep busy no matter the outside or inside weather conditions. Which of these items can be used in all weather conditions?

If an emergency were to occur and the electric goes out, you want to make sure you have activities at hand so you are not left with anything to do. These activities should be allowed for a person of any age and in any weather condition.

10. 

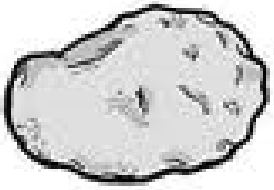
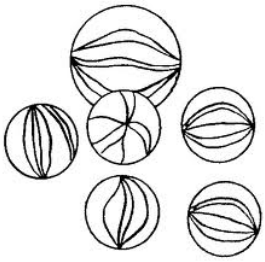
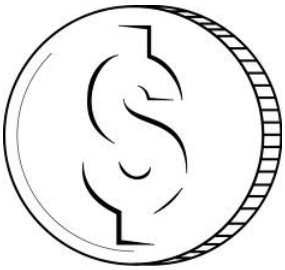
Adult Volunteer: how many here have been in a bad storm where the electricity goes out? It is important to use items that are battery operated in these conditions, but what happens if the batteries die? Your family emergency plan should include items that will replace dead batteries. Which of these items would be the best to replace them with?

It is important to use items that do not require to be plugged in just in case you do not have electricity. Because we want to use items without electricity, it is important that we have backup of this certain item that will allow us to use things such as a flashlight or a radio.

11.  

Adult Volunteer: how many here have been in a bad storm where the electric has gone out but would like to know the latest news on the storm? Do you think it would be safe to walk outside in a bad storm to another building? Your family emergency plan should include items that are battery operated and that will allow you to listen in on the news about the storm. Which of these items would give you up to date news?

In case of an emergency, you and your family want to be able to get the updates on what is going on around you. Since you may not have electricity to listen to the tv or internet, this device will allow you to get the information since it is battery operated.

12.   

Adult Volunteer: How many here have been in a bad storm where they had lost a lot of what they owned? Do you think it would be hard to buy the things you need after losing it all? Your family emergency plan should include items that will allow you to purchase the necessities you and your family may need if what you have gets ruined. Which of these items will allow you to purchase these necessities?

Every emergency will most likely call for emergency purchases that you and your family may need. These items are light weight and are easy to carry around. These will allow you to make it through the emergency with everything your family will need.

After hearing the clues at each station, place the correct answer that you think would be used in your emergency plan/kit in each of the boxes below. Have fun!

Feedback

After completing the activity, please take a few minutes to go to answer the following questions and tell us what you thought of the activity. Your responses will be used to help us improve this game.

1. What type of organization was involved in completing the activity (vacation bible school, day camp,etc.)?

2. How many children were involved in the activity?

3. Was the activity appropriate for the number of children? Do you think it would work better with a smaller number /larger number?

3. Did the children enjoy participating in this activity?

4. Would you use this activity again?

5. Is there anything about the activity that you would recommend changing?

Please email your comments to: shay.simmons@mcleancountyil.gov

Thank you for taking the time to complete the questions. We appreciate your feedback!