

DISASTER PLAN DRESS REHEARSAL

FACILITATOR GUIDE



FEMA

ACTIVITY: PRACTICING THE PLAN

Purpose: The purpose of this activity is to show individuals and families how to discuss and practice their disaster plans, revising them as necessary, so that the plans are kept current and disaster kits are complete.

Objective: In this activity, participants are shown how to discuss and practice their disaster plans in a game.

Preparation and Needed Materials: Prior to conducting this activity, you may want to:

- Review the Dealing With the Disaster Deck handout and prepare a set for display and demonstration purposes.
- Have on hand a supply of scissors, adhesive tape, small index cards, and marking pens for the participants to use in constructing their own decks of flash cards.

Presentation Tips:

- Welcome participants to the session.
- Explain that by the end of the session, they will be able to assemble a set of flash cards to be used to discuss and practice their family disaster plan.
- Ask the participants the following discussion question: Why is it important to revisit your plan and practice it?
- Acknowledge the answers and then present the following key points:
 - Practice helps the steps become second nature, like developing muscle memory in a sport.
 - When you revisit the plan and practice it, you know that the equipment works and that your supplies are safe to use.
- Distribute the Dealing With the Disaster Deck handout. Explain that the game lets families discuss important parts of their plans and make sure that those plans are current. The flash cards have key questions about their plan, safety drills that could be done, equipment testing, and disaster supplies. Emphasize that the sample questions on the cards are just a few of the many questions that families could use. Encourage participants to add their own questions to cards, too.

DISASTER PLAN DRESS REHEARSAL

FACILITATOR GUIDE



FEMA

ACTIVITY: PRACTICING THE PLAN

Presentation Tips: (Continued)

- Optional Demonstrations:
 - Demonstrate how to separate the flash cards and attach them to small index cards.
 - Show the participants the deck of flash cards you prepared beforehand.
 - Ask for a volunteer to assist you in demonstrating how to use the cards to question each other about a disaster plan in a simulated household discussion.
- Invite the participants to develop their own deck of flash cards, following the instructions on the handout.
- Thank participants for attending the session. Explain that more information about preparing for disasters will be covered in additional presentations.

DISASTER PLAN DRESS REHEARSAL

DEALING WITH THE
DISASTER DECK: HANDOUT



FEMA

ACTIVITY: PRACTICING THE PLAN

Review your disaster plan with other family members by playing a game. Use the questions on the flash cards to quiz each other about the plan. Feel free to add other questions based on your family's needs.

**PLACE THESE CARDS
WITH YOUR FAMILY
DISASTER PLAN.**

Directions:

1. Cut out the cards and attach them to index cards with tape or glue. Write the answer to the question on the back of the index card. Add your own questions on separate index cards or use the blanks on the next page.
2. Gather the family, distribute the cards evenly, and take turns quizzing each other with the cards.

What are the main hazards we have planned for?	Where can I find a copy of our family disaster plan?	Where can I find our family disaster supply kit?
If I am at school when an emergency happens, how will I reach my parents?	If members of our family are separated during an emergency or disaster, who will they contact?	If I am at home and hear a tornado or other warning siren or alert on the radio or TV, what should I do?
Where can I find our pet disaster supply kit?	If we have an emergency or disaster, what should I immediately do about our pet?	Where can I find a copy of our communications plan?
How often should our family disaster supply kit be checked and updated, and who is responsible for doing it? When was it last checked?	Which family member is responsible for checking our smoke detectors, and how often will they do it? When was it last checked?	Which family member is responsible for checking our fire extinguishers, and how often will they do it? When was it last checked?
If our family is told to evacuate the neighborhood and we are not together, where is our meeting place?	Who is our out-of-state family contact in case of an emergency or disaster?	Where are the main switches for water, gas, and electricity in our house, and how do you turn them on and off?
What should we do if we have a house fire in the middle of the night?	If we have to evacuate our home, what things should we take with us?	What precautions should we take when returning to our home if it has been damaged in a disaster?

DISASTER PLAN DRESS REHEARSAL

DEALING WITH THE
DISASTER DECK: HANDOUT



FEMA

Use these blank flash cards to create additional questions and cards of your own.
