

Emergency Preparedness Programming



California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services provides a free [California Emergency Preparedness Ambassadors](#) program, which engages 4th graders to develop and promote disaster preparedness guidelines for their homes, schools, and communities. It encourages kids to talk to their families about preparedness. Part of the lesson plan is to make a safety plan with their family.

The Preparedness Ambassador’s [activity book](#) is full of fun activities that teach about disasters such as floods, power outages, and wildfires. It includes games like a search for emergency supplies.

The [Teacher’s Guide](#) provides step-by-step instructions for the curriculum. The instructional sequence curriculum follows the 5E instructional model of engage, explore, explain, elaborate, and evaluate and includes seven case studies.

The [Student Notebook](#) focuses on the area the student lives in, helps them with their family plan, and encourages them to engage the local community to be ready for the next disaster.

The [Family Readiness Guide](#) is designed for a family to sit together and create a plan. This guide includes family member information such as names, phone numbers, and emails. It also includes who their doctor is and what, if any, medications are needed, as well as any allergies. This section also has a page for the family pets as well! There is a section on what records to keep, different ways to keep them, and where to keep them so that everyone knows how to find them. The “My Home” section has families create a floor plan of their home and record where the vital systems are, like the water and gas shut-offs and fire extinguishers. Then it takes that and expands to their community – including space for what utility companies are used with their phone numbers. Families can record information on the local police department, fire department, hospitals, and banking institutions. A section also covers deciding whether to shelter in place or evacuate. Any family going through this process will be ahead of the disaster curve and stand a much better chance of navigating a crisis.

Although this program was created for California, it can be adapted to any locale. Talk to your teachers, school board, and community about implementing a similar program. Contact DPrep Safety for help in designing and implementing your disaster preparedness plans.

