

Ready Together

Read how a family plan supports safe choices before, during, and after a disaster.

SC.5.E.7.7 "Design a family preparedness plan for natural disasters and identify the reasons for having such a plan."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each action a family includes in its preparedness plan. Circle each reason for having or practicing a plan, so you can connect plan details to their purpose.

A Plan for Changing Weather

- ① Natural disasters, such as hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, and wildfires, can change plans quickly. A family preparedness plan tells each person what to do before danger arrives, during an emergency, and after it is safe. Planning ahead can reduce confusion, help family members communicate, and make it easier to get needed supplies. Each family should choose actions that fit its home and local hazards.
- ② First, the family learns which disasters are most likely nearby. They choose a safe shelter location for each hazard, such as a small interior room on the lowest level for a tornado. They keep an emergency kit with water, food, flashlights, batteries, medicines, and a first-aid kit. The plan names an out-of-area contact, because local phone service may be busy. It also lists how the family receives official alerts.
- ③ During an emergency, everyone follows the shelter or evacuation directions for that hazard and listens to officials. They do not leave shelter until officials say it is safe. The plan includes a meeting place to use after the danger has passed, if family members are separated. Families should practice the plan twice a year. Practice helps people remember their jobs and shows which parts of the plan need to be improved.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What should a family learn before choosing preparedness actions?

2 Why does the plan name an out-of-area contact?

3 When should a family use its meeting place, and why might they need it?

4 According to the passage, what are the two reasons families should practice their plan?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a 5- to 7-sentence preparedness plan for one natural disaster that could happen where you live. Include alerts, supplies, a safe action during the emergency, an out-of-area contact, a meeting place to use after officials say it is safe, and two reasons for having the plan.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each action a family includes in its preparedness plan. Circle each reason for having or practicing a plan, so you can connect plan details to their purpose. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What should a family learn before choosing preparedness actions?	The natural disasters most likely to happen nearby.
2	Why does the plan name an out-of-area contact?	Local phone service may be busy during an emergency.
3	When should a family use its meeting place, and why might they need it?	They use it after the danger has passed, if family members have been separated.
4	According to the passage, what are the two reasons families should practice their plan?	Practice helps people remember their jobs and shows which parts of the plan need improvement.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

For a hurricane, my family will follow official alerts and charge our phones before the storm. We will pack water, food, flashlights, batteries, medicines, and a first-aid kit. If officials tell us to evacuate, we will use the route they direct. If officials direct us to shelter at home, we will use the safest area they recommend. Our out-of-area contact is Aunt Rosa, and after officials say it is safe, we will meet at the community center if we are separated. This plan can reduce confusion and help us communicate. We will practice twice a year so everyone remembers a job and we can improve the plan.

Accept equivalent wording for the passage-based answers. For the open response, accept a reasonable local hazard and safe, official-direction-based actions, as long as the required plan parts and two reasons are included.