

SAFETY SAFARI

Preparedness Toolkit



SAFETY
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INTRODUCTION

What This Guide Is About

This guide is designed to help parents, caregivers, and educators teach young children the basics of emergency preparedness in a way that feels safe, simple, and empowering.

Using this guide, fun characters from the Safety Safari book series and engaging printable tools on our website, you'll learn how to:

- Talk to children about emergencies without creating fear
- Build a family or classroom emergency plan together
- Pack a kid-friendly Go-Bag with essential supplies
- Help children recognize trusted adults and know when to ask for help
- Use games, drills, and stories to turn preparedness into a life skill

Whether you're reading one book or working through all four steps, this guide gives you everything you need to make safety part of your everyday routine — and help kids feel confident, not scared, when facing the unexpected.

Why Being Prepared Matters

Emergencies can happen when we least expect them — a power outage on a stormy night, a wildfire warning during a dry summer, or a flood from heavy rain. These moments can be scary, especially for children. But when families are prepared together, the fear shrinks, and confidence grows.

Being ready means:

- Knowing what to do when the lights go out.
- Having a plan for where to go in a fire or flood.
- Having a bag packed with essentials if you need to leave quickly.
- Helping children feel calm because they know what's happening — and how to stay safe.



INTRODUCTION

What Happens When Families Aren't Prepared?

Without a plan, emergencies can be more dangerous and overwhelming.

Children may:

- Panic or hide if they don't know what to do.
- Get separated and not know who to turn to.
- Feel confused and afraid, especially when routines are suddenly disrupted.

Adults may:

- Struggle to find important documents, medications, or supplies in time.
- Miss crucial evacuation windows.
- Feel helpless, unorganized, or regretful afterward.

But Here's the Good News

Preparedness doesn't have to be complicated — and you don't have to do it alone.

This guide turns big safety topics into small, manageable steps, to help your family or classroom:

- Spot the dangers around you
- Make a simple plan together
- Pack a kid-friendly Go-Bag
- Help kids trust the safe adults in their lives

Preparedness builds resilience, teamwork, and peace of mind — one child, one plan, one small step at a time.

Let's get started.

FOUR STEPS TO GET READY, STAY SAFE & FEEL STRONG

Step 1: Spot the Dangers – Know What Could Happen

Every adventure has surprises. Let's learn what kind we might face!

- Talk about emergencies common to your area (wildfires, floods, storms, earthquakes, blackouts).
- Use local news or real-life examples kids understand: "Remember when the lights went out?"
- Read Safety Safari books to introduce each hazard in a gentle way:
 - Leo the Lion → Wildfire
 - Ellie the Elephant → Flood
 - Max the Monkey → Power Outage
- Explore scenarios with games like "What Should I Do?" Spinner or Disaster Detective Matching.

Tip for adults: Don't overwhelm — focus on 1-2 hazards your family or classroom is most likely to face.



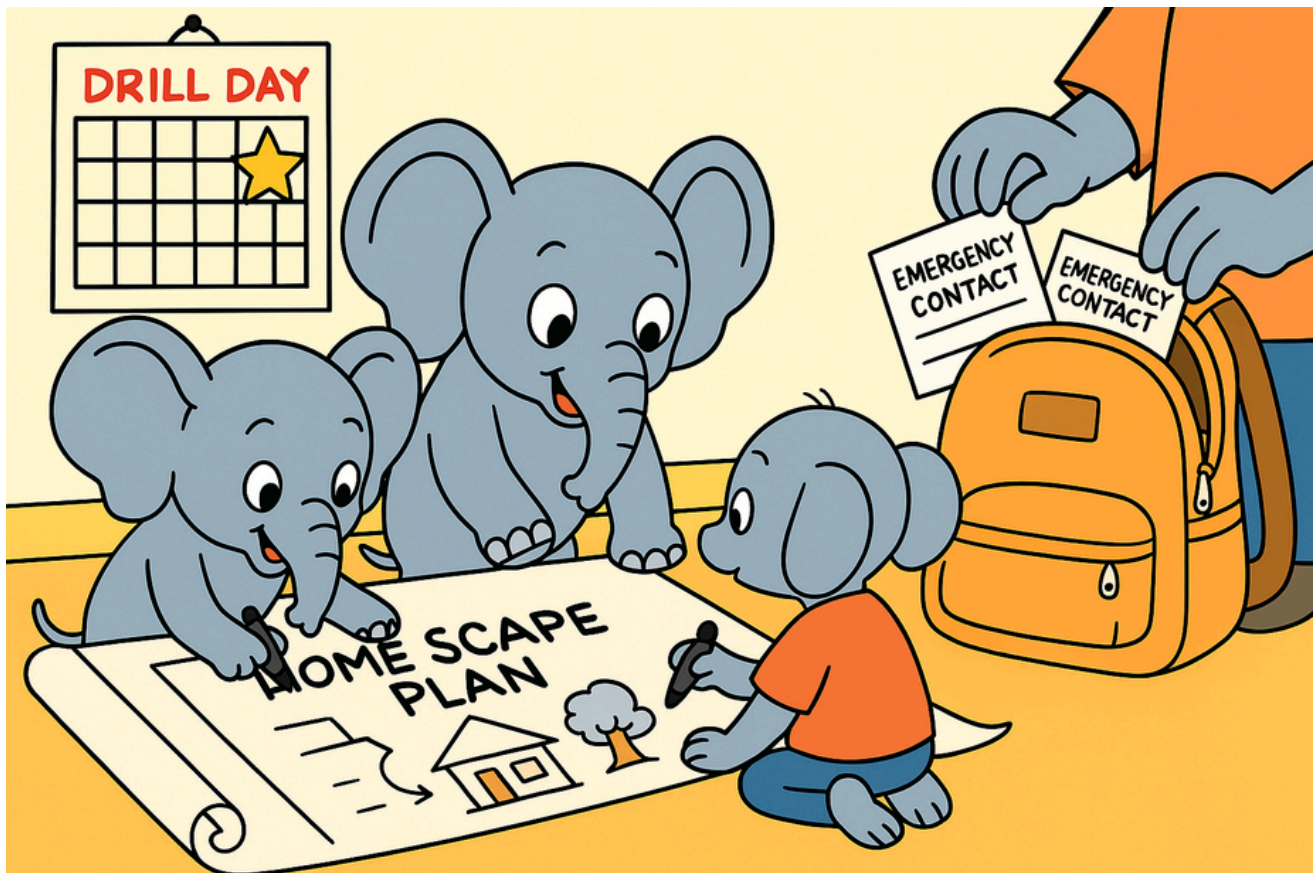
FOUR STEPS TO GET READY, STAY SAFE & FEEL STRONG

Step 2: Make a Safety Plan – So You Know What to Do

Planning ahead helps everyone stay calm and brave, just like Ellie!

- Pick two meeting places: one near your home, and one farther away.
- Write down emergency contacts (including an out-of-town person).
- Draw your house and practice escape routes.
- Practice drills (evacuation, shelter-in-place) and make them fun (timer, dress-up, flashlight game).

Tip for adults: Revisit your plan regularly and involve kids in reviewing it. Let them lead parts of the drill!



FOUR STEPS TO GET READY, STAY SAFE & FEEL STRONG

Step 3: Pack a Power Kit or Your Go Bag

Max the Monkey is always ready with the right tools — you can be too!

Kid-Friendly Go Bag Essentials:

- Water bottle
- Healthy snack
- Flashlight or glow stick
- Family contact card
- Small toy or stuffed animal
- Extra underwear and socks
- Emergency whistle
- Comfort item (photo, drawing, etc.)

Parents/caregivers:

- Add items like medications for three days, ID copies, wipes, hygiene items, and cash to your family's main kit.

Tip for adults: Let kids build and decorate their go bags. Ownership builds confidence and memory retention.



FOUR STEPS TO GET READY, STAY SAFE & FEEL STRONG

Step 4: Trust Your Team – You're Not Alone

Emergencies can feel big, but there are always grown-ups here to help.

- Teach kids to look for safe, trusted adults: family, teachers, police, firefighters, neighbours.
- Role-play asking for help: "Can you help me find my mom?" "Where is our meeting place?"
- Encourage kids to memorize a key phone number or address (use music or rhymes!)
- Remind children it's okay to feel scared – but there are always helpers.

Tip for adults: Display emergency numbers somewhere visible (fridge, backpack tag, classroom wall).



CONCLUSION

Preparedness is easier than you think — just four simple steps.

Helping children get ready for emergencies doesn't have to be overwhelming. With a few small actions, done together, your family or classroom can build lifelong safety habits that reduce fear and build confidence.

Let's remember the four simple steps:

Step 1: Spot the Dangers

Learn what types of emergencies could happen where you live — and use stories and games to help kids understand them gently.

Step 2: Make a Safety Plan

Know where to go, who to call, and how to stay calm. Practice your plan regularly so it becomes second nature.

Step 3: Pack a Power Kit

Create a child-friendly Go-Bag with comfort items, essentials, and a few smart tools to help your little ones feel ready and in control.

Step 4: Trust Your Team

Remind kids that safe adults — at home, school, or in the community — are always there to help during emergencies.

Preparedness is not about doing everything at once. It's about taking small steps together, one conversation, one game, one bag at a time.

With the tools in this guide — and your care and attention — you're building more than safety. You're building trust, resilience, and strength in the kids who count on you.

You've got this.

For more free tools, printable games and the Safety Safari Book Series, visit: **www.safetysafari.shop**