

# STUDENT TOOLS FOR EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

## FEMA's Leading Curriculum for Youth Preparedness

### INSPIRE YOUTH PREPAREDNESS

Inspire youth to prepare with **FEMA's Student Tools for Emergency Planning (STEP) Curriculum**. STEP is a modular emergency preparedness curriculum with fun activities that can be used in many different settings, inside and outside of school. It's available for **free** at [Ready.gov/student-tools-emergency-planning-step](https://www.ready.gov/student-tools-emergency-planning-step).

Safety during disasters is a priority, especially for the young people in our lives. FEMA's STEP curriculum has **helped kids prepare for disasters for more than 12 years**.

Here's Why You Need STEP:

- ✓ **Trusted Source of Information.** FEMA worked with educators, disaster preparedness experts, and students to update the STEP curriculum, so you have the best tool to educate youth of all ages and abilities.
- ✓ **Follows the Highest Standards.** STEP follows the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices and the [Council of Chief State School Officers Common Core State Standards](#), making it a reliable tool for educators.
- ✓ **Adaptable for a Wide Age Range.** Geared for students in fourth grade and above, the program allows learners to step into creating emergency kits and communication plans. At the same time, it teaches students about disasters, from severe weather to wildfires. You can adapt STEP to fit the learning needs of youth.
- ✓ **Available in Digital Format.** One of the changes to STEP is that you can download digital activities with fillable forms anytime online. This was a key piece of feedback we heard from previous users.



*"The students really enjoyed learning about the concept of safety, and we were able to have some great group discussions! I like that the program touched on types of weather not typically encountered in Michigan; it allowed the students to get an understanding of dangers that children their own age might face in other states/countries/continents."*

**Maria Reuter-Hamilton,**  
Parsons Elementary, STEP user

### TEACHING TO EMPOWER

FEMA designed STEP in modules for maximum flexibility. STEP includes three core lessons. You can teach each lesson in as little as 30 minutes. You can also incorporate five supplemental lessons on specific disasters – Severe Weather, Earthquake, Fire, Flood, and Pandemic Emergencies. A series of Youtube videos for kids, called Disaster Dodgers, helps introduce each concept, while an additional activity book offers 18 activities to reinforce ideas and jumpstart creativity.



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CORE LESSONS	BENEFIT FOR YOUTH
<b>Lesson One</b> Introduction to Emergency Preparedness	Helps students understand disasters, so they are less scary
<b>Lesson Two</b> Creating an Emergency Kit	Builds confidence in their ability to help
<b>Lesson Three</b> Design a Family Communication Plan	Gives an opportunity to work with family and loved ones

### PACKAGED TO GIVE YOU EVERYTHING YOU NEED

The STEP curriculum is a complete package, so you can focus on teaching and building future preparedness leaders. STEP even includes a blueprint with helpful tips to involve families and the broader community in preparedness.

The STEP curriculum includes:

- ✓ Instructor Guide with lesson plans and teaching tips
- ✓ Disaster Dodgers video series
- ✓ Activity Book with fun, interactive, hands-on activities
- ✓ Sample Letter to Families explaining STEP
- ✓ Hazard-Specific Digital Lessons
- ✓ Digital Badges
- ✓ Certificates of Completion
- ✓ Tips to involve family members and the larger community



*"Students enjoyed the YouTube videos and had great group discussions pertaining to the material. I believe they feel as though they can make a difference in an emergency situation because they have more knowledge regarding a variety of situations."*

**Jessica Neboyskey, Jackman Road Elementary, STEP user**

### USE IT ANYWHERE

FEMA designed STEP to educate youth both inside and outside the school classroom. You can use STEP at:

- ✓ Afterschool Programs
- ✓ Technology Education and STEM Classes
- ✓ Summer Camps
- ✓ School Safety Programs
- ✓ School Enrichment Programs
- ✓ Other Community-Based Programs

Even parents or guardians can use STEP at home with their children. Download it now and use it in any learning environment!

### ACCESSING STEP MATERIALS

You can order the STEP curriculum from the FEMA Warehouse or download the digital copy at [Ready.gov/student-tools-emergency-planning-step](https://www.ready.gov/student-tools-emergency-planning-step). If you have questions about the STEP curriculum, please email [fema-prepare@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:fema-prepare@fema.dhs.gov).