


## Have a Family Emergency Plan: Teach It To Your Children

1. ***Make an emergency communications plan.*** Decide how you will contact each other in case of an emergency. Teach the plan to each family member. Practice the plan. For example, be sure everyone knows everyone's work phone numbers, home phone numbers, and cell phone numbers. What emails will you use in an emergency?
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2. ***Choose a meeting place.*** Where will you try to meet if there is an emergency? A friend's house? A church or school building? It must be a place every family member knows. It must be a place every family member can get to quickly.
  3. ***Put together a disaster supplies kit.*** Page 29 tells what you need to have in your kit. Teach your children where to find the kit. Teach everyone when to use it and how to use it. It you must leave your house, take the kit with you.
  4. ***Find out the school's emergency plan.*** Ask the school for a copy of a parent's what-to-do checklist. Are you supposed to pick up your children? Or will the school bus them to an emergency shelter?
  5. ***Find out what emergency plans your apartment complex or nursing home has.*** Ask them for written instructions.

Here is a sample family plan (below). Study it. Then make your own family plan. Give a copy of it to every family member.

### **The Jones Family Plan**

1. Keep all cars filled with gas at all times.
2. Keep some disaster supplies in each car.
3. Keep your pagers and cell phones on during the day. Charge them every night.
4. Mother will pick up Molly at the school.
5. Father will pick up Grandpa.
6. Our first meeting place is Jill's office: 3940 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. If you can't get there, go to the UMCM Literacy Office at 301 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue North.
7. When it's OK to use the phones, call Uncle Bill in Syracuse: 315-678-9101. Everyone will call him. Then we will know if the whole family is OK.