

Reading to Ready Booklist

Help children learn about and prepare for disasters through reading. Choosing books about disasters that may affect your area can help build children’s resilience and ability to cope with crisis. Select one or more of the disaster books below to read together. While reading ask questions about the characters, settings and their reactions. Afterwards, have a discussion about what the book taught the children about preparing for and responding to disasters.

BUILDING EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE – LEARNING TO OVERCOME FEARS			
<i>Alfie Is Not Afraid</i>	by Patricia Carlin	With the help of his trusty dog, a little boy survives his first camp out.	Grades Pre-K–I
<i>Babies in the Bayou</i>	by Jim Arnosky	Demonstrates how parents and caregivers will protect children from harm.	Grades K–I
<i>The Dark</i>	by Lemony Snicket, illustrated by Jon Klassen	Dark becomes a character and teaches a young boy how to stop being afraid.	Grades K–I
<i>First Snow</i>	by Peter McCarty	Pedro isn’t sure he likes the cold and snow, but his family and friends encourage him.	Grades Pre-K–I
<i>Go Away, Big Green Monster!</i>	by Ed Emberley	Helps young children learn how to cope with and control their fears.	Grades Pre-K–I
<i>I’ll Know What to Do, A Kid’s Guide to Natural Disasters</i>	by Bonnie S. Mark and Aviva Layton	Helps children understand the facts, their feelings and how to cope with natural disasters.	Grades 2–5
<i>I’m Not Scared Book</i>	by Todd Parr	Bright, bold illustrations and simple text show children conquering a wide variety of fears.	Grades Pre-K–I
<i>Scaredy Squirrel</i>	by Melanie Watt	Scaredy Squirrel does not want to leave his tree for fear of killer bees, germs, and other disasters, but takes the leap and learns he can glide.	Grades K–3
<i>Stormy Night</i>	by Salina Yoon	Bear finds several ways to ease his fear when a storm wakes him up at night.	Grades Pre-K–K
<i>The Big Bad Blackout</i>	by Megan McDonald	When a hurricane knocks out the power, Judy, Stink, and their family find a way to pass the time.	Grades 2–4
<i>Two Bobbies: A True Story of Hurricane Katrina, Friendship, and Survival</i>	by Kirby Larson	This amazing, true story recounts how best friends Bob Cat and Bobbi, a cat and a dog, survive Hurricane Katrina by sticking together.	Grades K–3
<i>What To Do When You’re Scared and Worried</i>	by James J. Crist	Kids have worries just like grown-ups. This book helps explain where worries and anxiety come from and gives kids tips to handle their worries.	Grades 3–5
<i>Who Feels Scared?</i>	by Sue Graves	Jack, Ravi, and Kevin talk about scary things and how to deal with them during their sleepover in this story that includes a special section for adults on how to talk to children about dealing with fears. (From the Our Emotions and Behaviors series.)	Grades K–3

UNDERSTANDING HOW TO PREPARE FOR EMERGENCIES

<i>Back-to-School Safety</i>	by Lisa M. Herrington	A simple book to help kids start learning and building their basic safety awareness in a variety of situations.	Grades K–2
<i>Be Careful and Stay Safe</i>	by Cheri J. Meiners	This book helps kids stay safe in everyday situations and prepare for emergencies too. Also included are discussion questions, activities, and games for practice. (From the Learning to Get Along series.)	Grades K–3
<i>Blizzard</i>	by Joyce Markovics	Learn how to stay safe from winter's icy blast. (From the It's A Disaster series)	Grades K–3
<i>Fireboy to the Rescue: a Fire Safety Book</i>	by Edward Miller	Superhero Fireboy explains what to do in case of a house fire.	Grades 2–4
<i>How Do Dinosaurs Stay Safe?</i>	by Jane Yolen	Dinosaurs demonstrate what and what not to do to avoid getting harmed.	Grades Pre-K–K
<i>No Dragons For Tea</i>	by Jean Pendziwol	When a tea date with a dragon is interrupted by fire, a safety-conscious girl shows what to do to extinguish the flame.	Grades Pre-K–2
<i>Ready, Set ... Wait! What Animals Do Before a Hurricane</i>	by Patti R. Zelch, illustrated by Connie McLennan	A look at how people as well as animals prepare for a hurricane.	Grades K–3
<i>Terrorists, Tornadoes, and Tsunamis: How to Prepare for Life's Danger Zones</i>	by John Christian Orndorff	A list of tools and advice for prepping for and surviving a variety of disasters.	Grades 3–5
<i>Watch Out! Around Town</i>	by Claire Llewellyn	Kids are given advice on how to stay safe out of the home and around town. (From the Watch Out! series)	Grades Pre-K–2
<i>What If You Need to Call 911?</i>	by Anara Guard, illustrated by Mike Laughead	Short stories help readers learn when and how to call 911.	Grades Pre-K–2

LEARNING ABOUT MONITORING THE WEATHER AND SPECIFIC TYPES OF DISASTERS, INCLUDING HOW TO RESPOND

<i>Clifford and the Big Storm</i>	by Norman Bridwell	A story of evacuation and returning home.	Grades K–3
<i>Clifford the Firehouse Dog</i>	by Norman Bridwell	Focuses on being prepared and evacuating in a fire emergency.	Grades K–3
<i>Earthquakes!</i>	by Renee Gray- Wilburn	A graphic novel approach to earthquakes and safety.	Grades 2–3
<i>Extreme Weather: Surviving Tornadoes, Sandstorms, Hailstorms, Blizzards, Hurricanes, and More!</i>	by Thomas M. Kostigen	Includes tips on what to do before, during, and after extreme weather.	Grades 3–5
<i>Flood</i>	by Alvaro F. Villa	A wordless picture book showing the preparations for—and recovery from—a major flood.	Grades K–3

<i>Franklin and the Thunderstorm</i>	by Paulette Bourgeois	Explains how knowing the facts about something can help ease fears.	Grades K–2
<i>Hurricane & Tornado</i>	by Jack Challoner	Describes dangerous and destructive weather conditions around the world.	Grades 3–5
<i>I Survived Hurricane Katrina, 2005</i>	by Lauren Tarshis	A chapter book about a boy who overcomes his fears during Hurricane Katrina.	Grades 3–6
<i>Kenta and the Big Wave</i>	by Ruth Ohi	Kenta and his family must evacuate their home in a small Japanese village as a tsunami approaches. Inspired by true events.	Grades K–3
<i>Louie the Buoy: A Hurricane Story</i>	by Allain C. Andry, III	A survival story about a buoy during Hurricane Camille.	Grades 3–6
<i>National Geographic Kids Everything Weather: Facts, Photos, and Fun that Will Blow You Away</i>	by Kathy Furgang	Packed with weather-related information ranging from weather extremes such as heat and storms, to weather prediction and preparedness.	Grades 3–6
<i>Surviving a Fire</i>	by Heather Adamson	Learn what to do when faced with a disaster. (From the Be Prepared series)	Grades 2–4
<i>Tornadoes</i>	by Gail Gibbons	Teaches all about tornadoes: formation, classification and how to respond.	Grades 3–6
<i>Tornadoes: Be Aware and Prepare</i>	by Martha Rustad	Describes what each disaster is and what to do in case you are caught in one. (From A Plus Books: Weather Aware series)	Grades K–2

This list was created by the Quicklists Consulting Committee of the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association.

Compiled by ALSC Quicklists

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