Get the class to tell you what they think constitutes a disaster. After they do this, a dictionary definition pops up. Make sure read this definition aloud.

Then ask your students what constitutes a disaster. A number of criteria will pop up, some serious, some not so serious.

The point is that we normally think of disasters as being widespread. They can, however, be very, very localized as well.

Here you can play “Name That Disaster” with your class. The pictures pop up in the following order:
- Tornado
- Flood (in Nashville, TN)
- Wildfire (out west somewhere)
- Terrorist attack (Madrid, Spain train bombing)
- Oil spill
- September 11, 2001

Which of these events would have affect the largest number of people? 9/11, we are still dealing with the after effects.

Next, ask your students to name some of the groups/agencies/people who have to deal first hand with disasters. After they name some, play ‘Name the Emergency Responder’

The pics are in this order:
- EMS (emergency medical services)
- LE (law enforcement)
- FD (fire departments)
- Army National Guard
- American Red Cross
- TEMA (Tennessee Emergency Management Agency)
- FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency)
This slide transitions into being prepared and planning for a response to a disaster.

Stress that all agencies who respond to disasters spend more time planning for the disasters than they do actually responding to one.

An example is our local fire departments. Our FD’s spend more time training, maintaining trucks and equipment, and planning for fires and emergencies than they do responding to them.

This slide introduces the four steps to the ‘Disaster Cycle.’ These four steps are what every emergency response agency goes through in planning for disasters. This includes FD/LE/EMS/Red Cross, etc.

The four words pop up and then a definition for each appears. You may have to work a bit to explain ‘mitigate’ to your class. Most will have never heard of it before.

This slide tells the class that even though the ‘Disaster Cycle’ planning model is used by emergency responders, it is useful for each and every one of us.

The photo is of ‘The Miracle on the Hudson,’ when Captain Sullenberger landed a disabled passenger jet on the Hudson River and saved the crew and passengers.

Point out that many private organizations and companies help a lot with disaster response. The picture at the end is the worldwide shipping company DHL sending bottled water to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina.

Most of the search and rescue (SAR) dogs in this country are owned and trained by private individuals. The dogs and handlers you see in news footage of the Twin Towers after 9/11 were individuals volunteering with their SAR dogs to search for survivors.

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This is a simple example of disaster planning that almost all families do in some form or fashion. And with a winter like we had two years ago, we should do more of this.

The example takes us through preparing for an upcoming winter storm. The planning was done and the response was what we actually did when the storm hit. The recovery was what we had to do until the lights came back on. The mitigation was what we will do to counteract losing our electricity in the next winter storm.

Here, we begin to talk about planning for emergencies. The rest of the presentation will concentrate on the planning stage of the disaster cycle.

We want your students to think about what type of disasters might occur in East Tennessee. Ask them to name some disasters that might occur. Hint: the threat of a major earthquake, centered on Memphis, is very real!

Ask for opinions on if these disasters could occur here.

This slide just advertises the FEMA website as a place to go for information on disaster planning. Stress to the group that FEMA does actually have a lot of good stuff on their site.

It also lists some other possible disasters that could happen around here. Remember that Oak Ridge National Laboratory is pretty close and a lot of nuclear research goes on there.

Now, since we have determined what type of disaster might befall us, we start to look at those things that need to be in an emergency plan.

Some things to think about will appear in the pictures below.
This slide lists a number of points that need to be considered in any emergency plan.

Please look over these prior to teaching so that you can provide some commentary on each.

We will touch on each of these in the next few slides.

The first point is having an escape route. This can mean out of a house or building, out of a neighborhood, or out of an entire region. Questions to get your students thinking:
- How do I get out of my house if there is a fire?
- How do I get out of my neighborhood if there is a gas main leak?
- How do I get out of Florida when a hurricane is on the way?

Escape plans need to start small than then get bigger.

Evacuations are next on the list. This guide is straight off the FEMA website. It lists things as ‘Always Do,’ meaning exactly that, and ‘If Time Permits,’ meaning to do thing if it will not endanger your life.

Family communications during disasters is a huge source of stress if family members are separated. Pay particular attention to the second paragraph!

If a disaster strikes while children are at school, these children need to know who to contact. If the disaster knocks out communications in the entire county or region, who will your younger siblings call?
DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Utility shut-off & Safety: In the event of an emergency, you may be instructed to turn off the utilities at your home. This helps to cut off electricity, water, and gas to your home.

Insurance & Vital Records: Review existing policies for the amount and extent of coverage. Make sure you know what to do in the event that your home is damaged or destroyed.

Make a record of personal property, for insurance purposes. Take photos or a video of the interior and exterior of your home. Include a list of all important documents in your home.

Store important documents such as insurance policies, deeds, property records, and other important papers in a safe place, such as a safety deposit box. Keep these papers in a safe place where you can quickly access them in case of an emergency.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Special needs for people with disabilities include:

- Review plans and make sure they are updated.
- Keep a list of all the people who need assistance and make sure they are updated. Include the names and contact information of all the people who need assistance.
- Make sure that all the people who need assistance have a plan for evacuation. Include the names and contact information of all the people who need assistance.

Some other things to consider:

- Make sure that all the people who need assistance have a plan for evacuation. Include the names and contact information of all the people who need assistance.
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Here we are talking about what to do for pets in the event of a disaster and evacuation.

There are some good tips in the last paragraph if you have to leave your pet at home when you evacuate. Please go over these. Stress that we should always try to evacuate our pets if at all possible.

However, also stress that human lives come before animals. There are some good pictures at the end.

Evacuating livestock in the event of a disaster takes a lot of planning. It can be accomplished but two things are crucial.

- Livestock must have permanent ID so that they can be returned.
- Livestock must have a suitable place to be evacuated to that can provide food, shelter, and water.
Our final slide stresses the need for everyone to know basic skills like first aid and CPR/AED. It also reviews the acronym for how to use a fire extinguisher.

Then we three funny pictures that the class will like. Make up your own captions.

Explain next month’s contest.

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Sewing Contest

CATEGORIES:

Clothing........Any article of clothing. Examples could include shorts, vests, skirts, etc.

Toys.............Stuffed toys, doll clothes, or other cloth toys.

Clothing Accessories........Caps, hats, aprons, purses, pouches, travel kits, belts, backpacks, etc.

Other Sewn Items........Pillows, quilts, or any sewn item that has not been listed.

Miscellaneous..........Cross stitch, embroidery, crochet, knitting.

GENERAL RULES:

1. Name, grade, and club name must be attached to the entry.

2. The 4-H member must sew the entry on his or her own. Entries can be handmade or machine sewn. 4-H members may receive guidance and direction from a parent or adult; however, the actual construction must be the work of the 4-H member.

3. One item may be entered in each category.

4. Items may also be entered in the 4-H section of the Claiborne County Fair in August. Clothing items may be entered in the Regional Fashion Show held during Fashion and Design Conference.

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Photography Contest

"Say Cheese, Please!" Take your best snapshot and bring it to your March club meeting. Photographs must be taken by you. They should have been made after the 2011 Photography Contest.

Add a short caption or title under your photo. Select a photo that shows some imagination! Get close to a building and be careful of the light in the background when taking photos outside.

Label your photos with the category on the back. 4-H members may enter only one photo in each category. Photos must be mounted together on a poster board.

(Photos must be labeled by category with the 4-H member’s first and last name.)

Remember to enter your photos in the Claiborne County Fair!