Good2UGood4U:

Healthy Couponing Part 3: Are You Ready?

By Renee Lea-Currie, Ph.D. September 2, 2017



If you are ready, what will you do to help others get ready? If not, what will you do to get ready?

This can have both spiritual and practical meaning. Remember the story of the 10 Virgins. Matthew 25:10 ¹⁰ "But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut. (NIV) Spiritually we need to be ready as we know not when our time has come. We must ask ourselves are we ready to meet Jesus?

It is hurricane season in our area. In light of the recent devastation and loss of life in Texas, it is good to ask the question: Are You Ready on a practical level. Being ready is also a calming and learning experience for our children on how to manage crises. Here are some tips from FEMA. It even includes some online games for kids to help them feel a part of the preparation process.

If a big storm is coming...

Fill your car with gas

Fill plastic bags with water and place them in the freezer Get extra cash out of the bank

Fill prescriptions AND TAKE THEM WITH YOU READY

Emergency Backpack Kids can make

- 3-day supply of non-perishable food (dried fruit, canned tuna fish, peanut butter, etc.)
- Can opener
- · First aid kit
- Sleeping bag or warm blanket for everyone in your family. Travel pillows too.
- Change of clothes to last 3 days, including sturdy shoes
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, deodorant
- Paper plates, plastic cups& utensils
- Paper towels & unscented baby wipes
- Water at least a gallon per person, per day
- Battery-powered or hand-cranked radio
- · Flashlights with extra batteries
- Cell phone & charger, extra battery/ solar charger
- Whistle to signal for help
- Local maps (traffic lights won't work)
- Pet and/or baby supplies
- Books, games or puzzles
- A favorite stuffed animal or blanket
- Medicines you take

Knowledge Empowers Kids too!

Call a Family Meeting and Make a Plan!

- Pick the same person for each family member to call or email.
- Text, don't talk, unless it's an emergency
- It may be easier to send a text, if you have a phone, so you don't tie up phone lines for emergency workers.

Create a fire escape plan that has 2 ways out of every room

- Practice it twice a year.
- Choose a meeting spot near your home, then practice getting there.
- Choose a spot outside of your neighborhood in case you can't get home.
- Practice getting there from school, your friends' houses, and after school activities

http://www.ready.gov/kids

Find the words in the FEMA Emergency Supplies List

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ARE YOU READY **EMERGENCY CAN OPENER** FIRST AID KIT SLEEPING BAG **MATCHES** PAPERPLATES PLASTIC UTENSILS PAPER TOWELS **BABY WIPES FLASHLIGHTS** EXTRA BATTERIES WHISTLE **BOOKS** TRAVEL BOARD GAMES **CELLPHONE** SOLAR CHARGER 3 DAY SUPPY FOOD **CASH PAPER PENCILS BABY SUPPLIES** CANDLES **TOOTHBRUSH** TOOTHPASTE FEMININE HYGIENE DEODORANT TRAVEL SOAP TRASH BAGS ZIPPER BAGS CHLORINE BLEACH BACKPACK CLOTHES THREE DAYS **MEDICINES**

COOLER MAPS



Now some of you may ask- what does this have to do with coupons and saving money Renee? Well I will tell you. This is also Back-To-School time and tax free weekends on some states with awesome deals and plenty of sales and coupons in the Sunday newspaper for backpacks, coolers, ice packs. This is a great time to stock up on emergency items, such as non-perishable food such as shelf stable milk, cereal, peanut or almond butter jar or individual cups/pouches, dried fruit, pouch fruit, canned fruit in 100% juice, bottled water, travel size toiletries (Dr Bronner's travel liquid soap at Target \$1.99 each). If you have a store reward card, this is the time to cash in your points from Savingstar or Walgreens or CVS Xtra Bucks. Use CVS percentage off coupons with a sale item to save even more money. Stacking is the use of multiple savings such as store coupons, manufacturers' coupons and/or sales for the same item to "stack" up the savings. Stack the savings-Stack on your devotions (Bible, Sabbath School Lesson -Prayer Time - other devotionals) to save money and your soul. But mostly stack the love you show the world.