

Preparedness: The Child Affect

Findings show children play an important role in disaster preparedness and are very effective at influencing others. [Seventy percent](#) of households where children brought preparedness materials home from school have an emergency plan that has been discussed. [More than twice](#) as many of these households have actually participated in an evacuation drill.

A child trained in preparedness is more resilient during disasters and can help build stronger, safer communities. To make training fun and successful:

- Incorporate interactive [games and activities](#) such as scavenger hunts and developing an emergency plan;
- Give special consideration to bilingual children who can inform those who may not fully understand English; and
- Coordinate preparedness trainings before, during and after a disaster for children with disabilities.

More information about ways to educate youth is available in the American Red Cross [Masters of Disaster Kit](#).