

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

Alfie Is Not Afraid	By Patricia Carlin	With the help of his trusty dog, a little boy survives his first camp out.	Grades Pre-K-1
Babies in the Bayou	By Jim Arnosky	Demonstrates how parents and caregivers will protect children from harm.	Grades K-1
The Dark	By Lemony Snicket, illustrated by Jon Klassen	Dark becomes a character and teaches a young boy how to stop being afraid	Grades K-1
First Snow	By Peter McCarty	Pedro is not sure he likes the cold and snow, but his family and friends encourage him.	Grades Pre-K-1
Go Away, Big Green Monster	By Ed Emberley	Helps young children learn how to cope with and control their fears.	Grades Pre-K-1
I’ll Know What to Do, A Kid’s Guide to Natural Disasters	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’m Not Scared Book	By Todd Parr	Bright, bold illustrations and simple text show children conquering a wide variety of fears	Grades pre-K-1
Scaredy Squirrel	By Melanie Watt	Scaredy Squirrel does not want to leave his tree for fear of killer	Grades K-3

		bees, germs, and other disasters, but takes the leap and learn he can glide.	
Stormy Night	By Salina Yoon	Bear finds several ways to ease his fear when a storm wakes him up at night.	Grades Pre-K-K
The Big Bad Blackout	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
Two Bobbies: A True Story of Hurricane Katrina, Friendship, and Survival	By Kirby Larson	This amazing true story recounts how best friends Bot Cat and Bobbi, a cat and a dog, survive Hurricane Katrina by Sticking together.	Grades K-3
What To Do when You're Scared and Worried	By James J. Crist	Kids have worries just like grown-up. This book helps explain where worries and anxiety come from and gives kids tips to handle their worries.	Grades 3-5
Who Feels Scared?	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

Back-to-School Safety	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
-----------------------	-----------------------	--	------------

Be Careful and Stay Safe	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
Blizzard	By Joyce Markovics	Learn how to stay safe from winter's icy blast. (From the It's A Disaster series)	Grades K-3
Fireboy to the Rescue: a Fire Safety Book	By Edward Miller	Superhero Fireboy explains what to do in case of a house fire.	Grades 2-4
How Do Dinosaurs Stay Safe?	By Jane Yolen	Dinosaurs demonstrate what and what not to do to avoid getting harmed.	Grades Pre-K-2
No Dragons For Tea	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
Ready, Set...Wait! What Animals Do Before a Hurricane	By Pattie R. Zelch, illustrated By Connie McLennan	A look at how people as well as animals prepare for a hurricane.	Grades K-3
Terrorist, Tornados, and Tsunamis: How to Prepare for Life's Danger Zones	By John Christian Orndorff	A list of tools and advice for prepping for and surviving a variety of disasters.	Grades 3-5
Watch Out! Around Town	By Clair 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
What If You Need to Call 911?	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

Clifford and the Big Storm	By Norman Bridwell	A story of evacuation and returning home.	Grades K-3
Clifford the Firehouse Dog	By Norman Bridwell	Focuses on being prepared and evacuating in a fire emergency.	Grades K-3
Earthquakes!	By Renee Gray-Wilburn	A graphic novel approach to earthquakes and safety.	Grades 2-3
Extreme Weather: Surviving Tornadoes, Sandstorms, Hailstorms, Blizzards, Hurricanes, and More!	By Thomas M. Kostigen	Includes tips on what to do before, during, and after extreme weather.	Grades 3-5
Flood	By Alvaro F. Villa	A wordless picture book showing the preparations for and recovery from a major flood.	Grades K-3
Franklin and the Thunderstorm	By Paulette Bourgeois	Explains how knowing the facts about something can help ease fears.	Grades K-2
Hurricane & Tornado	By Jack Challonder	Describes dangerous and destructive weather conditions around the world.	Grades 3-5
I Survived Hurricane Katrina, 2005	By Lauren Tarshis	A chapter book about a boy who overcomes his fears during Hurricane Katrina.	Grades 3-6
Kenta and the Big Wave	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
Louie the Buoy: A Hurricane Story	By Allain C. Andry, III	A survival story about a buoy during Hurricane Camille.	Grades 3-6
National Geographic Kids Everything Weather: Facts,	By Kathy Furgange	Packed with weather-related information ranging from weather	Grades 3-6

Photos, and Fun that Will Blow You Away		extremes such as heat and storm, to weather prediction and preparedness.	
Surviving a Fire	By Heather Adamson	Learn what to do when faced with a disaster. (From the Be Prepared series)	Grades 2-4
Tornadoes	By Gail Gibbons	Teaches all about tornadoes: formation, classification and how to respond	Grades 3-6
Tornadoes: Be Aware and Prepare	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 Quick list Consulting Committee of the Association for Library Service of Children, a division of the American Library Association.

Compiles by ALSC Quick lists

Committee Co-chairs: Krista Britton & May R. Voors