

Unit 7. Emergencies and Disasters



Vocabulary



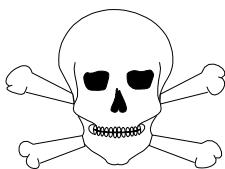
an ambulance
(ambulances)



a fire truck
(fire trucks)

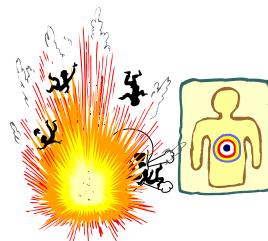


a police car
(police cars)



DANGER

poison
(poisons)



terrorism
(terrorist attacks)



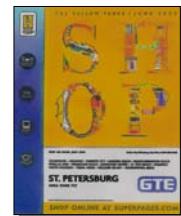
a gun and a bullet
(guns) (bullets)



a police officer
(police officers)



a phone
(phones)



a phone book
(phone books)

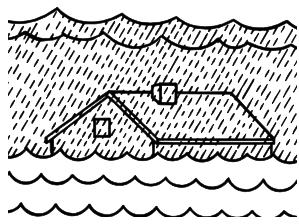


a tornado (tornadoes)

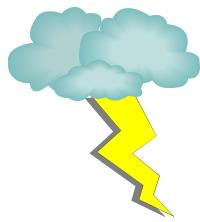


high winds

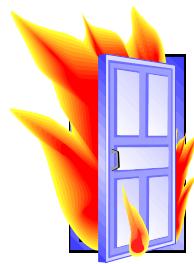
a hurricane (hurricanes)



a flood (floods)



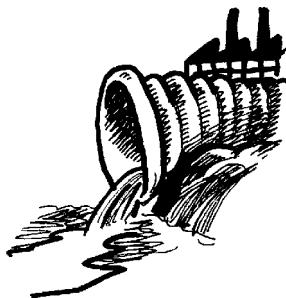
lightning



a fire (fires)
a building's on fire



a robber (robbers)
a man with a gun



an oil spill (oil spills)



an accident (accidents)

**EMERGENCY
CALLS ONLY**

911

**Doctor
Fire & Rescue
Highway Patrol
Paramedics
Poison Control Center
Police**

Learn These Emergency Words:

in English:	in your language:
a doctor	
a nurse	
a policeman	
a fireman	
a robber	
lightning	
a flood	
a hurricane	
a tornado	
an oil spill	
an accident	

Pronunciation

-ire	-ime	police	-ouse	-oom
fire	time	policeman	house	room
tire	crime	police officer	louse	bedroom
hire	lime	police car	mouse	bathroom
wire	prime	police radio	blouse	dining room

Clap the Stress

x X x x	x X x	x X x x X !
emergency	a problem	My house is on fire!
A child is hurt!	some trouble	A man has a gun!
an accident	a robber	My husband is hurt!
a hurricane	a fireman	My pickup is gone!
	Come quickly!	My children are sick!
	an earthquake	

A 911 Conversation

1. Person 1: 911. What is your emergency?
Person 2: A man has a gun! He's shooting at people!
Person 1: Where is he?
Person 2: In front of my house--425 First Avenue.
Person 1: The police are on their way. DO NOT HANG UP!



REMEMBER: 911 is for EMERGENCIES only. Call 911 if you see or hear:

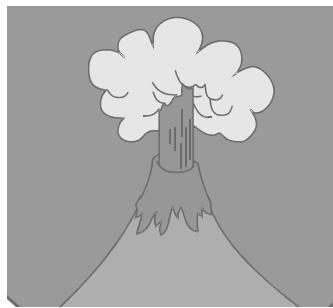
- ✓ a robber in your home now
- ✓ shootings
- ✓ fires
- ✓ a gang fight
- ✓ a bad accident

Types of Emergencies

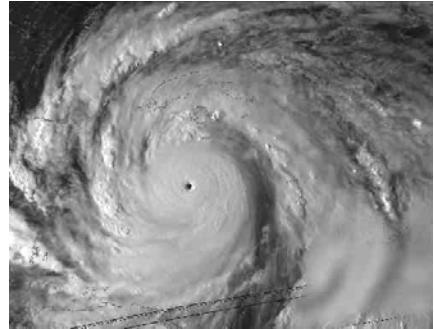
Some Emergencies are Natural Disasters:



an earthquake
(earthquakes)



a volcano (volcanoes)



a hurricane (hurricanes)

Some Emergencies are Man-Made:



a car accident
(accidents)



an explosion
(explosions)



a building on fire
(buildings on fire)



a plane crashing
into a building

Comprehension Check

Which of these types of disasters have you been in? Mark (X) all that apply:

- an earthquake a flood a tornado a hurricane
 a fire a volcano a terrorist attack
 a war other

Emergencies

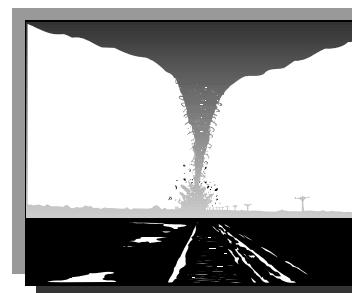
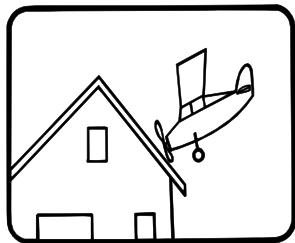
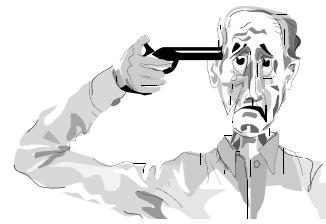
An emergency is a problem that happens suddenly and needs quick action. An emergency usually happens with no warning. It is bad. There is danger. Someone is hurt. Someone needs help.

Natural disasters such as earthquakes and floods are emergencies. Man-made disasters such as fires, car accidents and terrorist attacks also are emergencies.

In case of emergency, dial 911. Use 911 to get the police or the fire department or an ambulance.

Comprehension Check

Look at each picture. Is it an emergency? Write **Yes, it is.** or **No, it's not.**



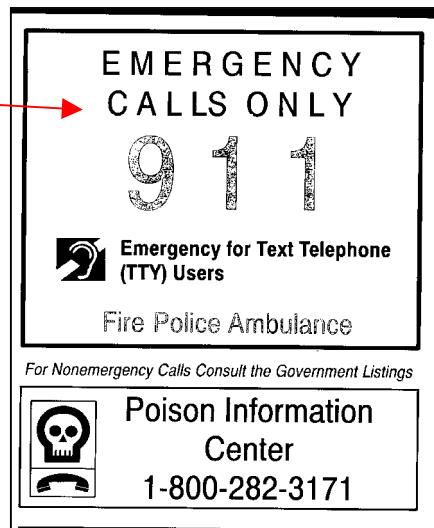
Look in the Phone Book for Your Emergency Numbers

This is from a phone book.
It is from the **white pages**.
It's about emergencies.

Look in Your Phone Book

Do this today. It might save your life.
It might save the life of someone in your family.

Look in the front of the phone book.
Look for something that says EMERGENCY CALLS.
Usually this is 911--but not always.



Your phone book tells what numbers are right for you.
Write the phone numbers you should use for:

Police: _____

Poison Information: _____

Fire: _____

Ambulance: _____

It's a very good idea to have a list of personal emergency phone numbers, too:

Doctor's name and phone number: _____

Dentist's name and phone number: _____

School phone number: _____

Who to contact in case of emergency: _____

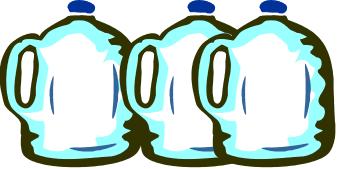
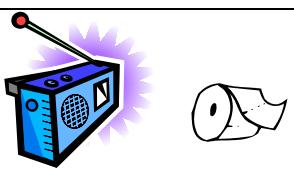
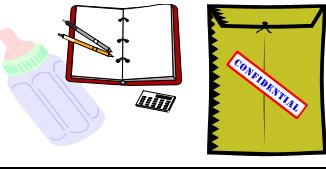
Keep your list of emergency numbers where everyone can find them.
Keep them close to the phone.
Keep them where people can see them.
Some people keep important phone numbers on the refrigerator.
Where do you keep your emergency phone numbers?

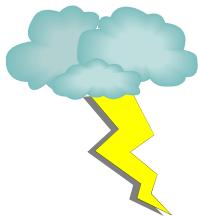
Prepare Now for Disasters

No one knows when a disaster may strike.
No one can tell when an earthquake or a tornado may strike.
No one can tell when a terrorist attack will come.
But you can be prepared.

Be sure your home has a disaster supply kit.
If you do not have one, put one together now.
Get your family to help you put together the kit.

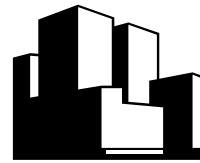
You need 6 basic things in your disaster supply kit:

✓ water 		3 gallons of water for every person, in plastic jugs
✓ food 		canned food that is ready-to-eat, nuts, peanut butter, crackers, trail mix, hard candy
✓ first-aid supplies		bandages, soap, scissors, aspirin, sunscreen, safety pins
✓ clothes & bedding 		strong shoes, blankets, backpack, sunglasses, hat and gloves
✓ tools and supplies 		radio, batteries, flashlight, toilet paper, matches, aluminum foil
✓ special items 		baby supplies, prescription drugs, important papers, books, pens, glasses



What to Do in a Thunderstorm

Thunderstorms can be very dangerous.
They can have high winds.
They can have heavy rain and hail.
They can cause flash floods.
The lightning can kill you.



a strong building



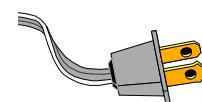
a tall tree

What to do if you are outside:

- ✓ Get inside a house, strong building or a car.
- ✓ Do not stand in open places or on top of a hill.
- ✓ Do not stand under tall trees or telephone poles.
- ✓ Stay away from metal pipes, railroad tracks, metal fences, phone lines.
- ✓ Jump in a ditch or other low area (if it's not full of water).
- ✓ **Do not lie flat on wet ground.** Instead, drop to your knees, bend forward and put your hands on your knees.



an open door



a plug

What to do if you are inside:

- ✓ Keep away from windows, open doors and fireplaces.
- ✓ Keep away from radiators, plumbing--anything metal.
- ✓ Unplug TV sets and computers.
- ✓ Do not use the telephone--except in an emergency.
- ✓ Listen to the radio and follow emergency instructions.



a fireplace



a radiator



an open window



a radio



What to Do in a Tornado

Tornadoes are always very dangerous.
They can strike without warning.
They can knock down buildings.
They can throw houses and people into the air.
They can kill you.

How to Prepare for a Tornado

Have a family plan about tornadoes and other emergencies.
Practice what to do.
If the weather looks bad, turn on a radio or TV and listen for weather information.

What to Do if there is a Tornado and You Are Outside

- ✓ Run into any strong nearby building--but not a mobile home (house trailer).
- ✓ Do not try to drive away from a tornado in your car.
- ✓ Get out of cars and trucks.
- ✓ ***Lie down flat in a ditch or low place.***



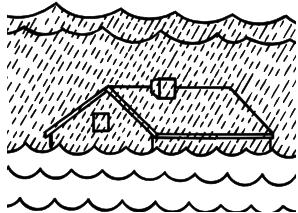
What to Do if You Are Inside

- ✓ Have an emergency radio on and listen for warnings and instructions.
- ✓ Stay away from windows and doors.
- ✓ Go to the basement--or an inside room with no windows.
- ✓ Get under something strong, such as a heavy table.
- ✓ Get under a blanket or sleeping bag. ***Protect your head.***



a man in a sleeping bag
He is not protecting his head. He should have the pillow over his head.
He should be under a heavy table.

What to Do in a Flood



Floods are the most common natural disaster.
Flash floods can happen without warning.
Other floods may take days to develop.
Floodwaters can kill you.

How to Prepare for a Flood

Always watch out for floods when there is heavy rain.
If the weather is bad, turn on the radio or TV and listen for weather information.

Be sure that you have a Disaster Supply Kit in the house and in the car.
Find out what roads are used in case of floods in your area.



Put a disaster supply kit in your car.

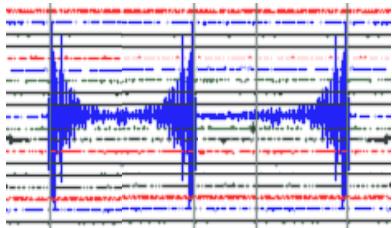
What to Do If You are Outside and a Flood Comes

- ✓ Keep away from rivers, streams and dams.
- ✓ Watch out for mudslides, rockslides, and broken power lines.
- ✓ Do not drive into a flooded area.
- ✓ Do not walk or try to swim in a flooded area.
- ✓ Get to higher ground as fast as you can, even if you have to leave your car.
- ✓ Do not go into a building if the floodwaters are over the first floor.



Go to higher ground.

What to Do in an Earthquake



Earthquakes can strike without warning.
Earthquakes can strike almost any place, at any time
The state that has the most earthquakes is California.

How to Prepare for an Earthquake

Be sure you have a Disaster Survival Kit in your house.
Be sure everyone in the family knows where it is.

Know how to turn off your gas, water, and electricity.
Know how to make a 911 call.

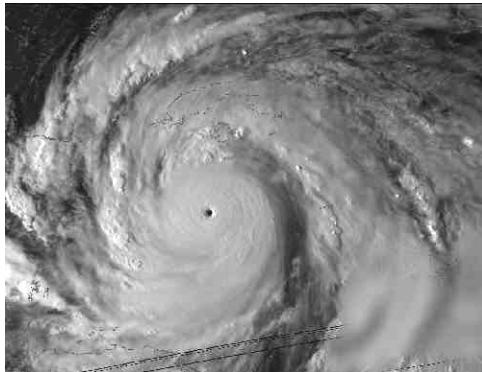
What to Do During an Earthquake

- ✓ Stay as calm as possible.
- ✓ If you are inside, stand in a doorway or get under something strong, like a desk or table. Stay away from windows or glass.
- ✓ If you are outside, get away from buildings, trees, phone lines and power lines.
- ✓ If you are driving, get away from overpasses and underpasses. Stop in a safe place and stay in your car.

What to Do After an Earthquake

- ✓ Look for injured people and help them.
- ✓ Look for gas and water leaks or broken power lines.
- ✓ Shut off any utilities that were damaged.
- ✓ ***Do not use candles or matches. Don't smoke. Don't start a fire.***
- ✓ Turn on your emergency radio. Follow the instructions they give.

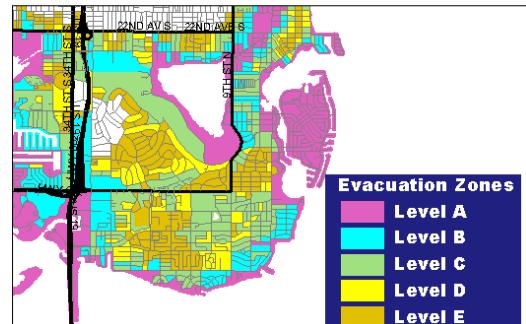
What to Do in a Hurricane



Hurricanes usually hit land near an ocean or a gulf. It takes several days for a hurricane to form, so we usually know when and where a hurricane might come. In the United States, the hurricane season is from June to November.

How to Prepare for a Hurricane

- ✓ Listen to weather reports very carefully and follow all emergency directions.
- ✓ Have an emergency weather radio on during bad weather.
- ✓ Know your evacuation route.
- ✓ Keep plenty of gas in your car or truck.
- ✓ Be sure you have a Disaster Survival Kit in your house. Be sure everyone in the family knows where it is.
- ✓ Board up or put tape on your windows.
- ✓ Do not stay in a mobile home. Go to a safer place, such as a shelter.



an evacuation map—know your zone & escape roads

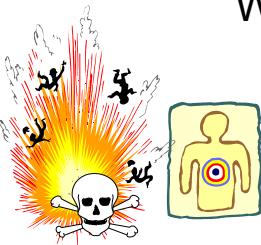
What to Do During a Hurricane

- ✓ Listen constantly to a radio or TV for emergency instructions.
- ✓ Stay inside, in an inside room without windows, if possible.
- ✓ Have plenty of flashlights and batteries handy.
- ✓ Have your Disaster Survival Kit handy.
- ✓ Protect yourself with pillows, blankets or sleeping bags.

What to Do After a Hurricane

- ✓ Stay tuned to the emergency radio for instructions.
- ✓ Look for injured people and help them—or call for emergency help.
- ✓ Watch out for gas and water leaks or broken power lines.
- ✓ Watch out for snakes and other harmful animals and insects.
- ✓ Do not go back to your home until officials say it is OK.

What to Do in Case of a Terrorist Attack



A terrorist is someone who does something terrible that hurts people and makes people afraid. It is especially terrible because it comes without warning. It catches people by surprise. It usually kills innocent people.

On September 11, 2001, there was a terrorist attack in New York City and another terrorist attack in Washington, D. C.

There are many types of terrorist attacks.

Some recent attacks have included:

- ✓ Crashing airplanes into buildings
- ✓ Setting off bombs
- ✓ Sending anthrax in the mail

How to Prepare for a Terrorist Attack

It is almost impossible to be prepared for a terrorist attack. That's why they are called "terrorist" attacks--they bring terror to everyone. But there are some things everyone can do:

- ✓ Report anything suspicious to the police.
- ✓ Don't open mail that looks suspicious, or that has no return address. Instead, call the police.
- ✓ Be sure you have a Disaster Survival Kit in your house. Be sure everyone in the family knows where it is.
- ✓ Know where to get official information about terrorism or disasters.
- ✓ Read everything carefully that comes from the police or other public officials.
- ✓ Have plenty of flashlights and batteries handy.
- ✓ Have your Disaster Survival Kit handy.

What to Do During or After a Terrorist Attack

- ✓ Listen constantly to a radio or TV for emergency instructions.
- ✓ Follow all instructions of emergency workers—police, firemen, soldiers, and other emergency workers.
- ✓ If told to stay in your home: shut all windows and doors, turn off fans and air conditioners, keep away from windows and doors, and do not leave your house until officials say it is safe to go out.
- ✓ Look for injured people and help them—or call for emergency help.

ANTHRAX

Anthrax letters traced to mailbox

■ Federal officials say the Daschle and Brokaw letters were mailed from the same N.J. mail route.

Knight Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Investigators have found the mailbox used by the person who sent two an-

Ridge would not discuss the location of the mailbox, but postal inspectors said "multiple mailboxes" had been searched and removed west of Trenton, N.J. Most of the attention focused on Ewing, a town of 35,700 people about 6 miles northwest of Trenton.

Ridge also confirmed that all three samples of anthrax recovered so far in Florida, New York

Group Work

1. Tell about an emergency or disaster you were in or saw.
2. What types of disasters are common?
3. What types of disasters are rare (happen very seldom)?



Cultural Notes

In the USA:

The United States government has many services to help people avoid disasters. Many other services help people recover from disasters.

Americans have excellent weather services, to let people know when bad storms, such as tornadoes and hurricanes, may come.

Americans have a free press. This means that, when something happens, we can get the news right away, on radio or TV, from newspapers or magazines.

The American Red Cross helps people in times of disaster. The Red Cross provides emergency food and shelter. It also provides excellent information about how to prepare for emergencies and disasters.

In Your Country:

What kinds of emergencies and disasters are common?

What kinds of emergencies and disaster are rare?

What types of services does the government provide in case of emergency?

What other organizations provide help in times of disasters?

Community Action Activities

Here are some ideas for community action activities. Decide which is most helpful to your class. If none of these ideas are helpful, please create one of your own. Use the *Community Action Worksheet* which is on page 18.

1. Find out what radio stations and TV stations your community uses for national emergencies. A quick way to find out is to do an Internet search.
Type “emergency radio” and the name of your town or county. You will get something like this, which is on the Placer County website:

Current Emergency Information

Placer County OES works directly with local news radio and television stations to provide information during emergency situations.

Emergency broadcast radio stations designated by the FCC

South-Mid County	Mid-County	North Lake Tahoe
KAHI AM 950 KFBK AM 1530	KNCO AM 830	KOH AM 780 KTHO AM 590 KOWL AM 1490 KRLT FM 93.9

All television stations will also be informed and most will carry information. Other radio stations will also be informed.

Please keep your family safe by developing a family emergency plan and by listening to local weather and news. Stay alert.

2. Get emergency information in as many languages as you can. Then you can discuss them in class and be sure your community is prepared. Many emergency information booklets in other languages are on the Internet. They are free. Just download them and print them out.

For example, this website lists all the languages in which American Red Cross brochures are available:

<http://www.redcross.org/disaster/safety/languages.html>

You will find disaster-information brochures in many languages, including:

Arabic	Korean
Khmer	Spanish
Chinese	Tagalog
Farsi	Vietnamese
Japanese	English

3. Invite a disaster relief official to your class to talk about the community's plans for emergencies and disasters. Prepare and practice the questions you want to ask ahead of time. *For example: Where are evacuation routes? When do we use them?*
4. Invite a 911 dispatcher to your class to help you practice how to make 911 calls.

Family Action Activities

Here are some ideas for family action activities.

1. Practice fire drills as a family, so everyone knows how to get out of the house in case of a fire.
2. Put together a family emergency kit. (See page 8.) Be sure everyone knows where it is and how to use it.
3. Visit a fire station or police department. Find out how they practice for emergencies.
4. On the Internet, go to <http://www.redcross.org/services/disaster/safety/languages.html> and find something suitable for your children. For example, there are coloring books and "Helping Children Cope with Disaster" in many languages.

Personal Action Activities

Here are some ideas for personal action activities. Use the *Personal Action Worksheet* on page 19.

1. Check the batteries in all your fire detectors.
2. Find out what the school emergency plan is. (Often you can find this on the Internet.)
3. Teach all family members where to meet in case of an emergency.

Community Action Worksheet

	Do This:	Notes/Results:		
STEP 1 	<p>What is your question? OR What is your problem?</p>			
STEP 2 	<p>Where to get good, free information. Mark the ones you will try:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <input type="checkbox"/> family or friends <input type="checkbox"/> classmates <input type="checkbox"/> police <input type="checkbox"/> bulletin boards <input type="checkbox"/> TV or radio <input type="checkbox"/> newspaper <input type="checkbox"/> books/magazines <input type="checkbox"/> encyclopedia <input type="checkbox"/> phone book <input type="checkbox"/> map <input type="checkbox"/> Internet </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <input type="checkbox"/> school <input type="checkbox"/> Better Business Bureau <input type="checkbox"/> church <input type="checkbox"/> library <input type="checkbox"/> boss or someone else at work <input type="checkbox"/> community center <input type="checkbox"/> recreation center <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> </td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> family or friends <input type="checkbox"/> classmates <input type="checkbox"/> police <input type="checkbox"/> bulletin boards <input type="checkbox"/> TV or radio <input type="checkbox"/> newspaper <input type="checkbox"/> books/magazines <input type="checkbox"/> encyclopedia <input type="checkbox"/> phone book <input type="checkbox"/> map <input type="checkbox"/> Internet	<input type="checkbox"/> school <input type="checkbox"/> Better Business Bureau <input type="checkbox"/> church <input type="checkbox"/> library <input type="checkbox"/> boss or someone else at work <input type="checkbox"/> community center <input type="checkbox"/> recreation center <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
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STEP 3 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Get the information. 2. Write down things that will help you. 3. Discuss the information with your class or friends or family. <p>(Take plenty of notes, or get brochures, or copy things that will help you.)</p>			
STEP 4 DO IT!	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do what you think is best, based on the information you found. 2. Write down the results. 3. Write down other action you want to take. 			

Personal Action Worksheet

	Do This:	Notes/Results:		
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STEP 4 DO IT!	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do what you think is best, based on the information you found. 2. Write down the results. 3. Write down other action you want to take. 			

A Story About an Emergency

Read a story about an emergency in the paper. Or go to this site to read, hear and see a story about a 1999 wildfire:

<http://www.literacynet.org/cnnsf/octfire/abridged/home.html>

You will see something like this:

Late Season Fire Hits Redding Area

Abridged Story

From a news story by
CNN San Francisco Reporter Rusty Dornin

October 17, 1999



Comprehension Check

1. What is the name of the story (the headline)?

2. Who is Rusty Dornin?

3. Where was the fire?

You can read the story. Or you can listen to the story. Or you can watch and listen to the story. It is all at: <http://www.literacynet.org/cnnsf/octfire/abridged/home.html>

Here is the first part of Mr. Dornin's story:

The fire moved very fast. The wind pushed the fire right up to the top of the trees. The people fighting the fire could not keep up.

The fire captain was worried about keeping his firefighters safe. The people who have houses were told to get out.

The fire burned twenty thousand acres along a seventy-mile strip in about fifteen hours. Hundreds of people who lived there had to leave. They took as many things as they could. The next day the firefighters wouldn't let them back down their streets. They didn't know if their houses were still there.

This is a picture from the video of Mr. Dornin's story.



What do you think the rest of the story says? Guess. Write an ending to his story here. Then go to the Internet and find out what really happened.

A Story About a Disaster

Write (or tell your teacher) about a disaster. Answer these questions in your story:

- What was the disaster?
- When was it?
- Where was it?
- What caused it?

Something I learned from an Emergency

A Day that Changed My Life

Think about something that changed your life. Maybe it was a disaster. Maybe it was an emergency. Maybe it was something wonderful. Write or tell about it. Add photos or drawings to what you write, if you'd like.
