mystery science

Lesson: “How can you get ready for a big storm?”

VIDEO TRANSCRIPT

INTRODUCTION VIDEO

Hi, it's Doug! Today, you're going to read a story about someone named JJ. He lives in a place where, in the fall and spring, it rains a lot, and sometimes there are thunderstorms. You'll read about what JJ does when a big storm is coming, but you aren't just going to read. Sometimes, you'll get up and do something, you'll look for clues, or you'll stop to talk about your ideas. Let's turn the page and get started.

FOLLOW READ-ALONG BOOK ON WEBSITE

ACTIVITY INTRODUCTION VIDEO

In today's activity, you're going to act out how kids in different places get ready when a storm is coming. JJ told you all about getting ready for a thunderstorm, but different places have different kinds of storms. You'll meet three kids from different places. Each one finds out that a storm is coming from the TV news, from their phone, or even from a loud siren. Each kid will tell you about the storm where they live. Then, we'll pretend to get ready for each storm. Storms can be scary if you don't know what to do, but as JJ learned, storms can be interesting and even fun if you are ready for them. Let's learn about storms and how to get ready for them, step by step.

ACTIVITY STEP 1

Meet Anton. He lives near a beach in Florida. Sometimes there are hurricanes, like this one. It rains, and the wind blows hard. Giant waves crash onto the land. But Anton isn't worried. The weather report on his phone and the TV warns him three days before a hurricane gets to his beach, so his family has time to get ready for the storm. Go to the next step to find out how Anton gets ready for a hurricane.

ACTIVITY STEP 2

To get ready for the storm, Anton checks his family's hurricane supply kit to make sure they have everything they need. Take a look and discuss.

ACTIVITY STEP 3

Now it's time to pretend. You are going to help get Anton's house ready for a hurricane. Stand up and make sure you have some space to move around.

ACTIVITY STEP 4

Each window on Anton's house has storm shutters to protect the glass from the wind. You are going to close those shutters on every window. First, watch how to do it. You pull one shutter to the middle, then the other one. Then you lock them. Now it's your turn. Pretend there's a window in front of you. Grab the shutter on one side of the window and pull it to the middle. Then grab the shutter on the other side and pull it closed. Turn the latch to lock them closed. Let's do another window. Grab and pull one shutter, then grab and pull the other. Lock them closed. One

more time. Grab and pull, then grab and pull again. Lock them closed. Good job. You're ready for the hurricane. Let's all sit down and find out how to get ready for a different storm.

ACTIVITY STEP 5

Meet Sarah. Sarah lives in Texas, where there are tornadoes. A tornado is a powerful, swirling wind that blows everything around. Sarah gets a warning when a tornado is nearby. Listen. That siren means a tornado is coming. Go to the next step to find out how Sarah gets ready for a tornado.

ACTIVITY STEP 6

If Sarah's at home when she hears the siren, she goes into the basement. If she's not at home, she finds a protected spot where she can hide, maybe under a desk or a table. Discuss.

ACTIVITY STEP 7

We're going to practice what you would do if a tornado was nearby. When you hear the siren, stand up, then pretend to hide under a table. The table is pretend, but you really curl up, just like Sarah. There's the siren. Curl up now. Great job. Our pretend tornado is gone. You can return to your seat now.

ACTIVITY STEP 8

Now it's time to meet Russell. Russell lives in Minnesota, where there are sometimes blizzards— storms with lots of snow. Wind blows the snow around, and people can't see where they're going. The weather report on Russell's computer warns Russell when a blizzard is on the way. Go to the next step to find out how Russell gets ready for a blizzard.

ACTIVITY STEP 9

Once the snow is falling, Russell and his family will stay inside where it's warm. Think about what they might need while they're waiting for the snow to stop. Discuss.

ACTIVITY STEP 10

We thought everything in the picture could be useful in a blizzard, except for the swimsuit. It's really important to have clothes that keep you warm, food to eat, and water to drink.

ACTIVITY STEP 11

Sometimes, in a big storm, the electricity goes out. If that happens, Russell's dad builds a fire in the fireplace to keep the house warm. He'll need firewood. Let's pretend to get some. Stand up and get ready. Make sure you have some space to move around.

ACTIVITY STEP 12

It's time to pretend. Here's what you do. Pick up firewood and put it in your arms, like this. One stick, two sticks, three sticks, four sticks, five sticks. Russell's family needs lots of firewood. Carry the wood to the fireplace so it's there when you need it. Good job. That's enough to keep you warm.

ACTIVITY STEP 13

Now you've learned about three different kinds of storms—hurricanes, tornadoes, and blizzards—and now you know how to get ready for those storms so you can stay safe. Discuss:

What storms do you have where you live? How can you get ready for those storms? Have fun, and stay curious.