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Grade level: 9-12 Special Education


Allow students, in groups or individually, to examine the pamphlet while answering the questions below in order. The questions are designed to guide students into a deeper analysis of the source and sharpen associated cognitive skills.

Level I: Description

1. What is this? What kind of information is given?
2. Are there clues/details that tell when this pamphlet was distributed?
3. We have emergency first aid pamphlets available. What kind of information is given that is rather useful?

Level II: Interpretation

1. Who was the audience for this emergency information?
2. Why was this pamphlet prepared?

Level III: Analysis

1. What does this item tell you about this period of history in the United States?
2. The U.S. military is fighting overseas today. Would an emergency preparations pamphlet need to have different information today?
CIVIL DEFENSE DURING WORLD WAR II
This 1942 Civil Defense Index booklet offers advice useful to civilians on the homefront. Information is given for air raids, blackouts, bombs, poison gas, as well as first aid situations.
AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS

AIR RAID WARNING

KNOW YOUR AIR RAID WARNING SIGNAL

The ALL-OUT ALERT signal usually consists of short blasts of rising and falling pitch on whistles, horns or sirens. It means enemy bombers are approaching and a raid is expected in about five minutes.

The ALL-CLEAR signal is usually a continuous signal of about two minutes duration.

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU HEAR THE WARNING SIGNAL

WHEN AT HOME

1. Block out all lights.
2. Turn out all gas stove burners—DO NOT TOUCH pilot lights, water heaters, furnaces, electricity or water supply. (Check your local regulations as this rule may vary in different localities.)
3. Check all Household Precautions.
4. Go to your Refuge Room.

REMEMBER—Keep calm. Stay away from windows and outside walls. Don’t telephone. Keep radio on for emergency bulletins. Stay under cover until after All-Clear is sounded. Don’t worry about your personal belongings; your life is more important.

IF BOMBS FALL NEARBY, get under a sofa or heavy table; a mattress under the body combines comfort and safety.

YOUR AIR RAID WARDEN is there to protect you—do what he tells you.

AWAY FROM HOME, INDOORS

Keep calm and WALK to safest place. In high steel buildings, if there is no designated refuge, go to center rooms in middle floors. Stay away from windows and outer walls. Avoid crowds. Obey your police and civilian officials. Do not telephone.

OUTDOORS

Keep calm. Get off the streets. Get under a shelter. Do not telephone. Stay away from windows. Obey Air Raid Wardens. If no shelter is available stand close to corners, avoiding windows and doors. If bombs are falling, lie face downward, resting on elbows, hands clasped behind the head, and chest raised slightly from the ground to avoid earth shock. The best place to lie down is close to a wall in a doorway.

IN YOUR AUTOMOBILE

1. Park close to curb. (Avoid blocking driveways; keep well clear of fire hydrants.)
2. Put out lights, pull up hand brake. Do not lock car doors.
3. Seek Shelter.
AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS

BLACKOUT INFORMATION

HOW TO PREPARE YOUR HOME FOR BLACKOUTS

1. For windows, prepare heavy dark drapes and means for fastening them securely, or build screens or shutters of wood or heavy wallboard. (Skylights and glass doors must also be blocked out.) A good blackout screen must also afford protection against flying glass. It should overlap the window on all sides by at least eight inches.

2. Have your flashlight ready for use. (It is never to be pointed upward or at any object which might cause a reflection on the outside.)

3. Make arrangements for ventilation so that air can come in without light showing outside. Windows can be left open to allow air under edges of overlapping blackout screens.

4. When everything is ready, make a test blackout and examine the house thoroughly from the outside to see if light shows through.

5. REMEMBER—No light to show outside—Open flames outdoors to be extinguished—No light to show when doors are opened.

OUTDOOR CONDUCT IN A BLACKOUT

1. Keep to the right on the street.
2. Do not run.
3. Cross streets cautiously.

4. No smoking or lighting matches in the street.
5. Use flashlight sparingly—Never point it upward.
6. Wear white outer clothing, reflecting buttons, etc.

YOUR AUTOMOBILE IN A BLACKOUT

1. It possible use your car only during daylight hours. Do not park on the street overnight.

2. If necessary to drive, move slowly, obey traffic rules. Head and tail lights must be blacked out in accordance with official regulations. White fenders and white body stripes are an aid to safety.
1. AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS

2. BLACKOUT INFORMATION

3. BOMBS AND HOW TO FIGHT THEM

INCENDIARY BOMBS

The most common type is the Magnesium Bomb, length about 14 in., weight about 2 lbs. When it strikes a roof or other hard surface it bursts into flame and sputters out burning metal up to as far as 30 feet around for about a minute. After the first minute the sputtering stops and it continues burning intensely for about 15 minutes. Some incendiary bombs also have an explosive charge which should be guarded against during the first two minutes as the explosion can cause serious wounds within a radius of 30 feet.

HOW TO FIGHT AN INCENDIARY BOMB

1. WITH WATER—(a) Get your hose, pumps, etc., to the scene at once. (b) Shoot a jet of water directly at the bomb without delay. (c) Use the jet quickly to put out all burning fragments and surrounding fires. (d) Be absolutely sure all fires are extinguished before leaving the scene. (e) Use a fine spray only where bomb is close to inflammable material and scattering of metal and burning fragments would be dangerous. (f) Use sand only when there is no danger of bomb burning through and spreading the fire.

2. WITH SAND—(a) Use long shovel—Approach carefully in crouching position and cover bomb with sand—When under control, carry bomb on shovel to safe place. (b) When a fire bomb falls in the open, hold a sandbag in front of your face, run up and place it squarely on the bomb, then dash away quickly.

3. WITH FIRE EXTINGUISHER—DON'T USE THE CHEMICAL KIND (SMALL BULLET-SHAPED PUMPS OF LIQUID) ON BOMBS. Soda-Acid or Foamite (the kind you turn upside-down) may be used. Put thumb on nozzle to get spray effect. One extinguisher will not be enough to put out a bomb.

HIGH EXPLOSIVE BOMBS

High explosive bombs vary in size, weight and effect and may be of the fragmentation or demolition type. Their effects are impact, earth shock, blast, fragmentation and fire. The best way to defeat them is to obey all the rules of blackout and air raid precautions both before and after a raid. Beware of unexploded bombs; they may be time bombs; report their location to the nearest authority.

TYPES OF BOMBS AND THEIR EFFECT

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HEAT PROSTRA
GAS WARNING

A PERCUSSION SOUND—Bells, drums, hand rattles, etc.

WHAT TO DO IN A GAS ATTACK

1. If the presence of gas is suspected, report it to the nearest warden.
2. If you have a gas mask, put it on at once.
3. Go to your gas tight room, or to high ground or the upper floor of a building.
4. If caught in gas be calm; avoid exertion; walk at right angles to wind, not with or against it. If you have no gas mask, breathe through a wet handkerchief or cloth. Report to your First Aid Post.

THE GAS-TIGHT ROOM

Your Refuge Room can be protected against gas by tightly closing all openings. Take in all necessary supplies; use tape, wet newspaper mush or other caulking material; seal door and window cracks, pipe and conduit holes, wall, floor and ceiling cracks, fireplaces and chimneys. Allow 20 square feet of floor space for each person who is to occupy an average room with a ceiling about 9 feet high. This will allow enough air for 10 hours. Have extra pieces of wall board, nails and caulking material in case windows are blown out by explosions.

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1—BLACKOUT MATERIALS

Have all materials ready (see page 2). Make a blackout test and check up from outside of house.

2—AIR RAID DRILL

Select a Family Air Raid Warden to be responsible for all household precautions. Plan your course of action if an air raid comes. Then have periodic air raid drills and check-ups to see that all precautions are in good working order.

3—EMERGENCY DATA

Have all emergency data at hand (see last page).

4—EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

![Emergency Equipment Diagram]

Have all emergency equipment at hand—shovel, sand, water, buckets, hose, nozzle and pump for incendiaries; axe, ladder, lanterns and candles, flashlights, First Aid Kit, blankets, sandbags, gas masks, blackout and luminous paint, portable radio.

5—REFUGE ROOM

Have your Refuge Room all equipped and ready (see page 7)