



## What's going on this week?

A recent incoming emergency alert plunged residents of Hawaii into panic last week before it was declared to be false.

An alert system is in place because of the potential proximity of Hawaii to North Korea. In December, Hawaii tested its warning siren for the first time since the end of the Cold War.

### Main question:

**How can you stay calm when you feel scared or worried?**

### Listen, think, share

- 🍏 Explain what happened in Hawaii, that a text message was accidentally sent out declaring an emergency and that everyone needed to seek shelter immediately. The message was sent at 8am and the people in Hawaii had just over half an hour before they realised it had been sent by mistake.
- 🍏 How do you think the people felt in that time? Explain that lots of people sent messages to their friends and family, telling them not to worry!
- 🍏 When everyone was sent a message saying the first message had been sent by mistake, how do you think they felt? Do you think it would be a mixture of anger and relief?
- 🍏 The person who sent the original message has quit their job- do you think they should have done? Or do you think that a computer should have stopped sending such a serious message by mistake? Ask the children if any of them have been in an emergency, what happened and how did they deal with it?
- 🍏 Read the quotes from the assembly resource. Look at the responses from the different people. Who responds in the most helpful way do you think and why? What advice might you give to the others to help deal with the situation better? Do you think it's easy to know how you will respond?

### Reflection

Things will happen in life that we aren't able to predict and that are out of our control. It's important to learn strategies to stay calm being prepared and thinking ahead is an important part of this!



## KS1 Focus

### Question:

**What is an emergency?**

### Listen, think, share

- 🍏 Ask the children what an emergency is? Can we list different examples? Explain that an emergency is something that is a very serious unexpected event that will often require some extra help. Often from people like our emergency services.
- 🍏 Look at the different pictures from the KS1 resource, who would be the most helpful people to turn to if there was an emergency?
- 🍏 What is it that makes some people good at dealing with emergencies? Talk about their experience and training.
- 🍏 Talk about how it's important to stay calm and always get an adult in difficult situations.
- 🍏 Discuss the roles of the emergency services and talk about how and why we can contact them if needed. What kinds of things can they help with?

### Reflection

Sometimes, there will be times when we need to listen very carefully and follow instructions. There may be really bad weather or other possible dangers. Adults in charge will have plans in place to keep everyone safe we must stay calm and behave sensibly!



## KS2 Focus

### Question:

**Why and how do we prepare for emergencies?**

### Listen, think, share

- 🍏 Ask the children what the definition of an emergency is? List descriptions then state the Red Cross's definition is, "A personal emergency is when an event causes some kind of risk to someone's health or welfare and which cannot be dealt with using normal available resources."
- 🍏 Talk about experiences we might have of an emergency and tips for how to react in unusual situations. Who is there to help us when we need it in an emergency? Discuss the role of the emergency services and explain that a lot of their training involves making sure they know how to stay calm in extreme situations. Why is this important?
- 🍏 Decide if each of the events is an emergency or not an emergency and which might or might not be depending on the circumstances. List the steps taken to prepare for this eventuality based on the steps provided for the situations you think are emergencies. How will that make each situation easier to deal with if it arises? Can you think of any situations where you plan and practise what to do in an emergency? e.g. fire drill at school.
- 🍏 Do you think it's always easy to know how you will react to an unknown situation? Do you think this is why planning is important?

### Reflection

It's important to think ahead and plan for possible emergencies as it's hard to know how you will react unless the situation happens. If you have a plan in place you will have something to help you deal with things as safely as possible.



## KS2 Cross-Curricular Ideas

**English:** Focus on emergency procedures and drills taken part in in school. Are there posters or leaflets sharing what you need to do? Are these age-appropriate? Ask the children to consider features of an emergency procedure poster such as a fire drill: clear, diagram, map, bullet points, headings, relevant information only, use of bold and colour. Use your own school fire drill procedure to create a poster for different audiences such as KS1 pupil, KS2 pupil, teacher, headteacher.

**Maths:** Explain reacting quickly to an emergency is incredibly important. Discuss why an ambulance needs to respond quickly to a call. Consider things that may slow them down: distance, traffic volume etc. Look at the ambulance response times found in useful websites. Hover over various areas to look at the percentage of calls responded to in less than 8 minutes. Look at average response times. Discuss and interpret data.

**Geography:** Locate Hawaii. Explain it is part of the United States and is made up entirely of islands. There are 8 active volcanoes in Hawaii. Research these. Consider what volcanoes are and how they are formed. Ask the children to think about what it might be like living near a live volcano. Would emergency procedures need to be in place?

**MFL:** Name emergency services in your MLF. Practise asking for help.

**History:** Look at emergency procedures from the past such as those carried out during the blitz in WW2.



## KS1 Cross-Curricular Ideas

**English:** Ask the children to think about the people who might help us in an emergency. It might be friends, parents, neighbours. Consider the emergency services; fire brigade, police, ambulance. Think about the job each of them do and how they help in an emergency. Gather questions children have. You could write a letter to thank a local emergency service for their help or send off some of your questions.

**Maths:** Ask the children where their meeting point is in an emergency. Time how long it takes to walk silently as a class from the classroom to the meeting point. Repeat from various places in the school e.g. hall, playground. Record times on the board and discuss the data. Which time was quickest? Why might that be? Order the times. Would it be possible to improve any of them?

**Role-play:** Create an emergency services area. Allow children to have a go at making emergency calls. If possible, ask someone from your local area who works for an emergency service to pop in and talk to the children, answering any questions they may have.

**Geography:** Locate Hawaii on a map. Explain that it is part of the United States and is the only state made up entirely of islands. Look at the continent it is part of. Can the children name the seven continents?

**Music:** As a class, create a song or rap to help the children remember what to do in either a fire drill in your school or to help them to remember how to make a 999 call. Add percussion instruments if you can!



## This Week's Useful Websites

This week's news story  
<http://bit.ly/2myDEHc>

## This Week's Useful Videos

Broadcast of false alarm warning  
<http://bbc.in/2DgAQcO>

KS2 Maths  
[www.ambulanceresponsetimes.co.uk](http://www.ambulanceresponsetimes.co.uk)