

HOUSTON MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCE

Scouts@HMNS

Be Prepared Prerequisite/Homework Workbook

Scout's Name: _____ Troop: _____

General Information

Prerequisites are requirements that HMNS cannot meet during the class and the scout can complete these before the class to be checked by the merit badge counselor and signed off on. If not completed, these requirements can be signed off by the troop or a pdf of the workbook or video (Fire Safety 8c, d and e) can be sent to scouts@hmns.org, with Blue Card in subject line. Homework are requirements that need to be completed at home before or during the week of class.

PREREQUISITE

First Aid Requirement 2b1 -

Using checklists provided in the First Aid Merit Badge pamphlet or ones approved by your counselor, do the following:

1. Assemble a personal first-aid kit for hiking and backpacking. Demonstrate the proper use of each item in your first-aid kit to your counselor.

Troops may have different items they require for a scout backpacking and hiking first aid kit.

Personal First Aid Kit

Adhesive bandages: In assorted sizes, including finger bandages.

Sterile gauze pads: For covering wounds.

Adhesive tape: For securing dressings.

Moleskin or blister pads: Blister prevention

Antiseptic wipes or alcohol wipes: For cleaning wounds.

Antibacterial ointment: To help prevent infection.

Pain relievers: Such as ibuprofen or acetaminophen for minor aches.

Antihistamine: For allergic reactions or insect bites.

Insect bite cream (Benadryl or hydrocortisone): Use for insect bites or mild skin irritations.

Personal Medications: any prescriptions or EpiPen

Personal products: Female scouts

Hand sanitizer packets: For quick hand hygiene when soap and water are unavailable.

CPR mask: For providing mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

Gloves (latex-free): For handling bodily fluids.

Tweezers: For removing splinters or ticks.

Scissors: For cutting gauze or other materials.

Medical tape: For securing bandages and dressings

Elastic Bandage: Wrap sprains or strains to provide support and reduce swelling.

Triangular Bandage: Create slings or support for an injured arm or shoulder.

Thermal Blanket: Keep an injured person warm to help prevent shock.

First-Aid Manual or Cheat Sheet: A small guide provides quick instructions in an emergency.

Emergency Preparedness Requirement 9

Earn the First Aid merit Badge this will be done in class if scout completes the prerequisites. Please make sure scouts are here that day.

HOMEWORK – This can be done on Monday Night

Emergency Preparedness Requirement 2a

At a family meeting, discuss the situations on the chart you created for requirement 1b and (See below make emergency plans for sheltering-in-place and for evacuation of your home). Discuss your family meeting and plans with your counselor.

Signed Off _____

PREREQUISITE/HOMEWORK

Family fire-escape plans, drill and schedule

Emergency Preparedness Requirement 2b

Fire Safety Requirement 5g

Safety Requirement 2e

Scouts need to do the following:

- Scouts need to develop a fire escape plan for the family.
- Draw a floor plan of your home with exits marked for escape routes and a map showing your family meeting point outside the home.
- Conduct a home fire drill.
- Review your plan and your drill with your counselor.

Fire Drill Signed Off _____

Notes:

PREREQUISITE/HOMEWORK

Emergency plans for sheltering-in-place and for evacuation of your home

Emergency Preparedness Requirement 2a and 2c

Safety Requirement 2f

Scouts need to do the following:

- Make emergency plans for sheltering-in-place and for evacuation of your home because of weather or other natural disasters that occur in your area.
 - ❖ On a separate sheet of paper write your families plans for sheltering-in-place and for evacuation.
 - ❖ Write any important documents or personal emergency supplies your family will need to bring.
- Inspect a family disaster kit for sheltering-in-place and for evacuation of your home. Review the needs and uses of the items in a kit with your counselor.
 - ❖ Note: The Youth Education Department has a Shelter in Place Kit. The scouts will inspect this kit for the basic supplies.

PREREQUISITE/HOMEWORK

Home Safety/Fire Check list

Requirement 3a for Emergency Preparedness

Requirement 5d for Fire Safety

Requirement 2d for Safety

Scouts need to do the following:

- Using a home safety checklist inspect a home (or a similar building near where you live or at a camp) for safety hazards with the help of an adult.
- Present your completed checklist to and discuss your findings with your counselor.
- In the back of this workbook.

Notes:

PREREQUISITE/HOMEWORK

Home Security Check list

Safety Requirement 3b

Using a Home Security Checklist in the *Safety* merit badge pamphlet or one approved by your counselor, inspect your home or a similar building for crime security measures with an adult.

Review your checklist and findings with your counselor. In the back of this workbook.

Notes

PREREQUISITE/HOMEWORK

Troop's mobilization plan

Requirement 8b for Emergency Preparedness

Have your scout talk with their Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster about their troop's mobilization plan.

Prepare a written plan for mobilizing your troop when needed to do emergency service. If your troop already has a mobilization plan, present the plan to your counselor and tell your part in making the plan work. Do this on a separate piece of paper or get a copy of your troop's mobilization plan.

PREREQUISITE

Emergency Service Project – Real or Practice

Requirement 8d for Emergency Preparedness

Take part in an emergency service project, either a real one or a practice exercise, with a Scouting troop or a community agency or at Scout camp or at a school. Review what you learned and practiced with your counselor.

PREREQUISITE/HOMEWORK

Smoke and CO Alarms in home

Requirement for Fire Safety 5e

Determine if, and what types of, smoke and CO alarms are required in homes in your community (Covered in class). List what types of smoke and CO alarms your home has, their locations, and their expiration dates.

Types of smoke and CO alarms	Location	Expiration Date

PREREQUISITE

Requirement 8c for Fire Safety

Explain and demonstrate making sparks with flint and steel or with a ferro rod and catching a spark to create a flame. Extinguish the flame safely using one of principles of the fire tetrahedron.

Signed Off _____

Check safety and security steps that are being taking in your home. Write N/A if the item is not applicable. Items left blank may present a safety hazard. This list provides some sample safety steps you might take. See the Merit Badge pamphlet and your counselor for more information. Ask your parent or guardian before making any changes.

Stairways, Halls, and Outdoor Steps **N/A**

- Stairways with three or more steps have a strong handrail and slip resistant finish.
- Stairways & halls are kept free from boxes, toys, shoes, brooms, tools, and other tripping hazards.
- Gates at top and bottom of stairs prevent children from falling.
- Are there small, loose, or insecurely fastened rugs or carpet at the head, foot, or covering stairs or in walkways.
- Stairways & halls have good lighting, controllable at each end.

Kitchen

- Matches and lighters kept where children cannot get them.
- Emergency numbers are posted next to the telephone, including 911 and poison control.
- Knives & sharp instruments are kept in knife drawers or holder.
- Can openers don't leave sharp edges on cans.
- Disinfectants & cleaning products are out of reach of children.
- Pan handles are turned away from stove edges.
- Spilled grease, water, or bits of food are wiped up immediately.
- Pot holders are located near the stove, within easy reach.
- A dry chemical Class ABC fire extinguisher or fire blanket mounted near the stove.
- Are fire extinguishers checked for pressure in the green zone or expired.

Attic and Basement

- Ladder is strong, solid, and sturdily constructed.
- Stairway is sturdy and well lighted.
- Children keep skates and play gear in a specific place.
- Walls and beams are free from protruding nails.

- Rubbish & flammable materials are in covered metal cans.

- Wastepaper is kept away from furnace and stairs.

Living Room and Dining Room **N/A**

- Furniture is placed to allow easy passage in an emergency.

- Furniture and woodwork solid, in good repair, and free from splinters and rough spots.

- Rugs are fastened or laid on non-slip pads.

Bathroom

- Tub and shower are equipped with strong handholds.

- Tub floor has non-slip surface.

- Poisons and dangerous chemicals are marked, sealed shut in original containers, and out of reach of children.

- Medicines are out of reach of children in childproof containers and locked cabinets.

- No one takes medicine in the dark.

Bedroom

- Smoke alarm has fresh battery or secure electrical connection & is tested monthly.

- Smoke alarms are less than 10 years old.

- Carbon monoxide detector has fresh battery or secure electrical connection and is tested regularly.

- CO alarms less than 5 years old.

- Furniture placement for clear passage between bed and door.

- Light switch or lamp is within easy reach from bed.

- A night-light illuminates halls, bedroom, bathroom, or stairs.

- Bureau and dresser drawers are closed when not in use.

- Bar across upper bunk beds helps prevent falls.

- Window screens and storm windows securely fastened.

- Gas and electric heating devices are turned off at bedtime.

Nursery

N/A

- Bars on cribs are closely spaced – no more than 2 3/8" apart so baby's head cannot slip between them.
- Crib is free from sharp edges or corners.
- Sleeping garments and covers keep baby warm without danger of smothering.
- Pillows are kept out of bassinet or crib.
- No thin, plastic material is in or near the crib.
- No toys or objects in or near the crib or within reach of any child under 3 are less than 1 inch in diameter and 2 inches long.
- No toys or objects have small parts that can be removed.
- Children are taught not to give marbles, etc. to younger children.
- Toys are sturdy, do not come apart easily, & have no sharp edges or points.
- Nontoxic paint is used on baby furniture and toys.
- All houseplants are nonpoisonous.

Furnaces, and Heaters

- Furnace pipes and flues are inspected & cleaned annually.
- All gas burners such as water heaters, kitchen stoves, clothes dryers, and house heating furnaces free from leaks and protected from drafts.
- Gas water and space heaters are equipped with vents or flues.
- Water heater or boiler has a safety valve & is checked yearly.
- Water heater temperature is set below 120 degrees Fahrenheit to reduce the risk of serious burns.
- Insulating shield protects woodwork within 18" of furnace, etc.
- Keep flammable materials away from stoves, furnaces, etc.
- A wrench is stored near the shut-off valve of outside gas line.

Fireplace, Wood Stoves and Candles

N/A

- The flue is opened before using the fireplace.
- Indoor wood stove or fireplace equipped with a proper metal door or screen.

- Fire in fireplace is extinguished at bedtime.
- Stoves and space heaters located away from curtains and turned off at bedtime.
- Wood stoves and flues are inspected & cleaned annually.
- Candles are in stable holders and fully extinguished after use, before bedtime, or before leaving home

Porch, Yard, and Garage

N/A

- Railings and banisters are sound and inspected periodically.
- Steps and walks are kept free from ice and snow.
- Yard/play space are free from holes, stones, glass, etc.
- Tools and dangerous articles are out of reach of children.
- Dangerous products & chemicals are kept in original containers in locked storage areas.
- Wires and low fences are brightly painted or clearly marked.
- Wells, cisterns, and pits are kept securely covered.
- Disposable materials are not burned outside.
- An area is marked off in the garage for bicycles, wagons, etc.
- Lawn mower is equipped with proper safeguards.

Pool Safety

- Is the pool or hot tub, is it protected by a fence or other barriers?
- Are rules posted for family members and guest to follow for safe swimming.
- Is rescue equipment easily accessible at poolside.

Workshop

- Good ventilation exists, especially when sanding or painting.
- Safety goggles or face mask, and hearing protection are worn when working with or around power tools, and an appropriate eyewash is available.

- All electrical tools are either grounded with three-wire plugs or are double-insulated.
- Is the work area well lit & free of clutter?
- All tools are stored away and out of reach from children.
- Guards are in place on all power tools.
- A push stick is available for use with power saws.
- Tools are unplugged when not in use and before changing blades, servicing or repairing.

Electrical Devices and Fixtures

N/A

- Electrical fixtures and appliances are not located near a water source unless outlet is protected by a ground-fault interrupter (CFI).
- When switches or outlets are warm to the touch or make crackling, buzzing, or sizzling sounds, are the circuits turned off at the breaker box until repairs are made?
- Are cracked, frayed, or otherwise damaged cords taken out of service and repaired or replaced promptly?
- Do you remove plugs from sockets by pulling on the plug and not the cord?
- Household appliances are disconnected before repairs.
- Are you using the appropriate wattage of incandescent and LED light bulbs in all lamps and light fixtures?
- Does everyone in your home know how to turn off the electrical power to the whole house?
- Circuit breakers are labeled and not overloaded.
- Long trailing cords are not in evidence.
- Cords are kept out from under rugs, doors, and furniture.
- Fuses are adequate for the load and are not bypassed.

For Emergency

- Know how to get emergency help (911, poison control, etc.).
- Be able to find water, gas, & electric shutoffs. Check annually.

- First aid kit approved by your doctor/American Red Cross.
- Know basic first aid procedures.
- Have a fire escape plan from your home.
- Emergency water supply.
- Handheld flashlights readily available.
- In earthquake-prone areas, make sure that the water heater and bookcases are bolted to the walls.

General

N/A

- Stepladders are in good repair and stored out of the way.
- Guns are stored unloaded and in locked cases.
- Guns and ammunition are stored separately.
- Housework clothing has no drooping sleeves, sashes, or frills.
- Shoes worn for housework have low heels.
- All shoes are in good repair.
- Kerosene, gasoline, paint thinners, and other volatile materials are stored outside in special, clearly marked metal containers.
- Oil mops, dust rags, painting equipment, and other oily materials are stored outside in open metal containers.
- Everyone turns on a light before entering a dark room.
- Matches are extinguished before they're thrown away.
- Children are never permitted to play with matches.
- Fire extinguishers are readily available and in good working order.

Home Security Checklist

Front and Backyard

N/A

- Is your address visible from the street during the day and night?
- Do you have motion sensor lights in your front yard?
- Do you have a video camera for video surveillance of your front door or front yard?
- Do you have signs outside your house that your house is monitored?
- Are your doorways, windows, and porches clear of trees and shrubs? Trimmed to less than three feet to prevent hiding spaces?
- Does your garage door remain closed and secured with a padlock, hasp or other lock?
- Do your family's cars always remain locked whether the cars are in the garage, driveway, on the street, or in a designated parking area?
- Do you have motion sensor lights or outdoor lighting in your backyard?

Doors

N/A

- Are your exterior doors of solid-core construction?
- Can all of your doors be securely locked?
- Can all of your doors be securely locked and are the locks in good repair?
- Do you lock your garage door and the door between your house and garage at night?

Interior and Alarms

N/A

- Do you have burglar alarms?
- Is your dog door or mail slot locked?
- Are all windows locked and secured?
- Do all bedrooms and bathrooms have locked doors?
- Do you have smoke alarms in hallways, bedrooms, near the family room, kitchen?
- Do you have a ABC fire extinguisher in your home?

Neighborhood

N/A

- Does your neighborhood have a Neighborhood Watch program?

- Does your neighborhood have a security team that occasionally patrols the neighborhood?

- Is the community kept clean, have adequate street lighting?

- Do you not give out personal information (name, age, address) to a stranger on the telephone?

- Do you never let a stranger know you are home alone either when answering a phone call or answering the door?

Valuables

N/A

- Do you have an inventory list or proof with photos or videos of your valuable property?

- Are valuable items like laptops or televisions inscribed with an identifying name or number?

- Does your family keep excess cash or other valuables in a bank or in a fireproof safe?

Vacation Preparation

N/A

- Does your family leave the spare house key with a close friend or reliable neighbor when you go out of town?

- Does your family notify a trusted neighbor you will be gone and if they can store your trash cans, collect newspapers, mail or packages cans?

- Do you make your home look lived-in while you are away?

- Do you never publicly post vacation photos on social media while you are currently on vacation?

In Case of an Emergency

N/A

- Do you have both a landline and cell phone?

- Do you know the valid reasons for calling 911?

- Does your family have an emergency evacuation plan and meet up location in the event a fire or crime or weather emergency forces you to quickly leave the home?

- Do your family members and you know to leave everything undisturbed and call the sheriff or police?