HAVE AN ITEM?

Ask to the group: what other item most of us own, that we can use in an emergency? Be creative!
HOME-MADE DISASTER KIT

BRACE YOURSELVES FOR EMERGENCIES AND DISASTERS—USING ITEMS AVAILABLE AT HOME!

A Public Lab Barnraiser Collaboration
It has been raining on and off all week. However, since Friday it has been raining more strongly, but it doesn't seem too terrible. You go to bed with your family. On Saturday morning, all of your family is asleep when you wake up.

When you get to the living room, you notice that some water is starting to come into the house. You rush to open the door, and notice that a water current is going down the street as a stream. Water keeps rising above the porch.

You turn on the radio to hear what is going on, and hear that rain is expected for another 48 hours. You have to get ready to leave home in case that the rain doesn't stop.

What should you keep handy?
Mops are really great at drying or cleaning up floors. Also, its handles are usually harder than brooms.
SCENARIO: FIRE

It is a Sunday at lunchtime. You are gathered with the family and a couple of family friends, getting everything ready for having lunch.

Your neighbor tells you that they saw on TV that the nearby forest is on fire, a few miles away from where you are. No wind is blowing right now, but the police say that there is a chance that fire might come in your direction in a few hours.

Your neighbors agree that leaving home is a sensible decision, You want to make sure that your home is safe from the fire, but your family comes first.

What would you do? Is there something at hand that you can do to prepare yourself and your home before you go?
SCENARIO: EARTHQUAKE

It's a Thursday at 2:30 am and everyone is sleeping at home peacefully. You are in your room with your door closed.

Suddenly, your dog starts getting uneasy, barking and howling. This wakes you up. You start feeling how your bed starts moving. It is soft at first but it gradually shakes more and more. After a few seconds, everything moves so much that it is really hard to get up from the bed.

Everything around you starts moving. All the furniture and decorations in the house fall around. The house starts making a creaking sound. You can't really leave your room right now, so you duck and cover.

After a few seconds, it stops. You get up and leave your room.

What would you gather for this emergency?
HOW TO PLAY

Organize participants in groups of ten and give them a set of item cards. You can split the deck for playing with up to four groups.

You will begin by narrating an emergency scenario from a colored card. Feel free to prepare another scenario that suits your specific situation. We encourage you to be creative. Use sound effects, play video, or feel free to make people laugh. Your goal is to make them feel a part of the situation!

Give ten minutes to the groups to decide what items should be part of their kit. There is no need to limit how many cards a team can choose. Afterwards, each group must present their kit to everyone, and compare it to the kits of other teams.

The goal of the game is to encourage participation, so we are not interested in competition. If you feel like you must make it a competition, give points to each team for every chosen card, and give extra points for combining cards creatively.
BROOM

Brooms have a long handle, which can be used to reach, hang or secure other things.
TOWEL

Keeping children dry is important. Also, in some cases, these items can help you breathe better!
Hose

Do you have a nearby water source? Also, can we use it to rescue someone trapped or to pull something from a lower area?
Need to move a bunch of things at the same time? Buckets are great for delivering water too.
Is there a fire around? This is what you need? Also, did you know there are different types of extinguishers?
ROPE

Do you need to pull something? Do you need to pull yourself up? Ropes are very useful for all that!
BURN CREAM

This item is useful to treat minor burns.
ADHESIVE BANDAGES

Good for treating minor bruises and cuts.
JACKET

If you only had one, who would you give your jacket to keep them safe in an emergency?
Construction sites usually have piles of sand, and they can stop the elements if used wisely.
WATER BARREL

What is more useful right for you right now, the water or the barrel?
This tool can help you get in or out from a lot of places. You can also use it to gather other material.
SHOVEL

Use it to move material from one place to another, or to clear an area.
MEGAPHONE

Do you need to send messages quickly? These things can be loud!
Who would you call in an emergency? Also, can you think of an alternative plan if the network doesn't function?
LED LAMP

Is it dark inside or outside? Would you prefer for it to charge to the wall, or to use batteries?
SLEDGE HAMMER

Door closed? Something in the way? No problem!
CAR BATTERY

With a simple connection, this item can help you power up other things! What would you use it for?
DUCT TAPE

This item can help with many, many things. Which ones would you teach a child to do?
DUST MASK

Some emergency situations make it hard to breathe. They're usually not perfect, but still, very useful!
GLASSES

Is there dust in the air that makes it hard to see?
PLASTIC BAGS

Bags can protect your most important belongings in an emergency. You can even keep your feet dry with a couple of them!
COMPASS

Do you need to leave your location? Where would you go?
BUG SPRAY

Are there mosquitoes this time of the year?
Are there any branches or trees in the way?
ELECTRIC BLANKET

Is it cold near you? Is there electricity that you can use to power it?
FIRST AID KIT

Who in the family should keep one of these near? Who is most likely to get hurt?
SCISSORS

Usually a household item for simple uses, they can be very useful in emergency situations.
TWEEZERS

What could these be useful for? Is there something tiny that you need to pick?
CAN OPENER

Do you have canned food stored for an emergency? Should you?
WATER PURIFIER

Would you keep around a filter or tablets? What is best for children?
FISHING LINE

These are pretty resistante and handy to hang around clothes and other things.
FIRESTARTER

Magnesium firestarters can help you light a fire underwater.
PORTABLE STOVE

Do you think that a serious emergency would require for you to cook outside?
BATTERY RADIO

What would you listen to if you had one of these?
WHISTLE

This handy item doesn't need any electricity to function.
MULTITOOL

It can pretty much do anything!
You can fill it with anything you want. Would you use it as a barricade, or for storing things?
HAND SANITIZER

Great to keep around to clean and disinfect, especially if there is no water available.