Follow the Map!

Help Pedro and his friend Martin learn about hurricanes!
Look at the map. Connect the numbers to show the hurricane’s path. Knowing the path will help Pedro and Martin’s family be ready and stay safe. Then circle the images for the kinds of weather they might see during a hurricane. Cross out the images for kinds of weather they probably will not see.

A MESSAGE TO GROWN-UPS: Your child has been learning about hurricanes. Together, look at regional maps, such as the ones from the National Weather Service at weather.gov/safety/hurricane-ww, to discuss the possibility of a hurricane in your area. Encourage children to talk through any fears or anxieties they may have and reassure them that, as a household, you can be prepared to stay safe.
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**Part 2:** You’ve learned a lot about hurricanes! Read each statement below. Is it true or false? Circle your answer.

1. A hurricane **watch** means that a hurricane might come to your area. **TRUE / FALSE**
2. During a hurricane, the air is calm and the sky is sunny. **TRUE / FALSE**
3. **Storm surge** happens when a hurricane pushes ocean water up onto the land. **TRUE / FALSE**

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Hurricane Dos and Don’ts
Pedro and Martin need help preparing for a hurricane.

**Part 1:** Circle pictures of some important things to have ready if a hurricane is coming. Add your own picture too. Cross out items Pedro and Martin’s household does not need.

- Water bottle
- Skis
- Bike
- Flashlight
- Shovel
- Chair
- Cell phone
- Saw

**Part 2:** Circle pictures of things that are safe to do when a hurricane is coming. Cross out the pictures that show things that are not safe.

- Cell phone charging
- Bike (no bike riding; the bike should not be left outdoors; chairs left outdoors by a tree)

A MESSAGE TO GROWN-UPS: Stay informed about the risk of hurricanes in your area. As a household, find a local online NOAA radio station (see weather.gov/nwr/station_listing) to listen to in the event of a hurricane.
Part 1: Circle pictures of some important things to have ready if a hurricane is coming. Add your own picture too. Cross out items Pedro and Martin’s household does not need.

Part 2: Circle pictures of things that are safe to do when a hurricane is coming. Cross out the pictures that show things that are not safe.

Part 3: There are a few more things to have ready in case there is a hurricane. Circle the items from the word bank below in the word search!

WORD BANK
CLOTHES
MEDICINE
BATTERIES
RADIO

A MESSAGE TO GROWN-UPS: Stay informed about the risk of hurricanes in your area. As a household, find a local online NOAA radio station (see weather.gov/nwr/station_listing) to listen to in the event of a hurricane.
Your child has been learning how to prepare for and stay safe during a hurricane. Ask your child to share what they’ve learned. Then work together to be sure your household is prepared by developing a plan to help keep all household members—including pets—as safe as possible during and after a hurricane. Discuss these safety tips together and make a plan for completing them to be ready for a hurricane. The activity also includes tips on how to ease children’s anxieties or fears about hurricanes by talking together as a household and practicing simple coping skills.

Hurricane Safety Tips

- Secure windows and doors; board up windows if needed.
- Make a list of items to bring inside before a hurricane such as outdoor furniture, bikes, toys and anything that might blow away. (Note: Gas grills pose a fire hazard—do not bring them indoors.)
- Choose a safe room, away from windows and with plentiful supplies in case you need to shelter in place. Ensure children know not to leave the safe room until grown-ups say it’s safe.
- Make an evacuation plan, agreeing on a meeting spot in case household members become separated. Map out two ways to get from your home to a shelter or other safe place. Remember: if the authorities say to evacuate, do so immediately.
- Create an emergency kit for your safe room and to bring along should you evacuate. Include bottled water, non-perishable snacks, flashlights with batteries, medications, baby and pet supplies, clothes, radio and non-electronic toys and books.
- After a hurricane, don’t use water that could be contaminated to wash dishes, brush teeth, prepare food, wash hands or make ice or baby formula. Use bottled water until authorities say the water is safe.
- Be sure children know to avoid dangers such as fallen trees, floodwater and downed power lines. Report any dangling electrical lines to the power company.

Emergencies can be scary.

Address any fears or anxieties your children may have about hurricanes by talking through their feelings with them. Reassure your child that you will oversee the planning with their help so they don’t feel it is their job. Also consider practicing coping skills together, such as taking several deep breaths or closing your eyes and imagining yourself in a favorite place.

Practice, practice, practice!

Check your emergency kit regularly and replenish any items missing or in short supply, especially medications or medical supplies. Practice your hurricane evacuation plan as a drill at least twice a year.

Learn More!

For more information, check out these resources:

- American Red Cross: redcross.org/hurricane
- Ready.gov: ready.gov/hurricane
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: cdc.gov/disasters/hurricanes/index.html
- National Weather Service: weather.gov/safety/hurricane-ww