Help Pedro and his friend Jaime prepare for a wildfire! The big circle around Jaime’s home is a safety zone. Circle things that are safe to keep in the zone. Cross out things that could catch fire and are not safe to be in the zone. Jaime’s household should move these items outside the safety zone to help his home stay safe during a wildfire.

**A MESSAGE TO GROWN-UPS:** Be prepared for wildfires! Create a 30-foot-wide safety zone around your home that is clear of brush, leaves, pine needles and branches. This cleared space reduces the fuel available to a wildfire, creating a line of defense between a wildfire and your home. Woodpiles, gas grills and propane tanks should be located outside the 30-foot safety zone. Keep porches and decks clear of clutter and debris, both on top and underneath. Also be sure that your home address can be easily seen from the road, so firefighters can find you in an emergency.
Prepare with Pedro!

Wildfires

Create a Safety Zone

Part 1: Help Pedro and his friend Jaime prepare for a wildfire! The big circle around Jaime’s home is a safety zone. It is 30 feet wide. Circle things that are safe to keep in the zone. Cross out things that could catch fire and are not safe to be in the zone. Jaime’s household should move these items outside the safety zone to help his home stay safe during a wildfire.

Part 2: Pedro has tips about some causes of wildfires and how to prevent them. Fill in the blanks below using the words from the word bank to complete the sentences.

1. Put out a _____________________________ with lots of water before you leave the campsite.
2. Wildfires can start when _____________________________ strikes trees or grass during a storm.
3. A grown-up should always stay by a _____________________________ when cooking outdoors.
4. _____________________________ can start a wildfire if they are not used safely.

WORD BANK

lightning

campfire

grill

fireworks

A MESSAGE TO GROWN-UPS: Be prepared for wildfires! Create a 30-foot-wide safety zone around your home that is clear of brush, leaves, pine needles and branches. This cleared space reduces the fuel available to a wildfire, creating a line of defense between a wildfire and your home. Woodpiles, gas grills and propane tanks should be located outside the 30-foot safety zone. Keep porches and decks clear of clutter and debris, both on top and underneath. Also be sure that your home address can be easily seen from the road, so firefighters can find you in an emergency.
Help Pedro and Jaime make a wildfire evacuation plan. Jaime’s household will go to his Grandpa’s home if there is a wildfire. Draw lines to show TWO ways they can get to Grandpa’s home. Then color the map.

A MESSAGE TO GROWN-UPS: Stay informed about the risk of wildfires in your area. Sign up for your community’s warning system and, if you have internet access, check the fire watch maps at weather.gov/fire. Study the maps together and discuss how this knowledge can help keep your household safe during a wildfire.
Make a Plan

**Part 1:** Help Pedro and Jaime make a wildfire evacuation plan. Jaime’s household will go to his Grandpa’s home if there is a wildfire. Draw lines to show TWO ways they can get to Grandpa’s home. Then color the map.

**Part 2:** Pedro has some evacuation safety tips. Wildfires move fast, so you have to be careful. Stay away from the fire when evacuating. What should you and your grown-ups do to be sure you are moving away from the wildfire when you leave your home? Unscramble the words below to find out! (Your teacher will give you hints if you need them.)

T A C H W H T E S K E O M

A MESSAGE TO GROWN-UPS: Stay informed about the risk of wildfires in your area. Sign up for your community’s warning system and, if you have internet access, check the fire watch maps at weather.gov/fire. Study the maps together and discuss how this knowledge can help keep your household safe during a wildfire.
Prepare with Pedro!

A Message to Grown-ups

Your child has been learning how to help prepare for and be safe during a wildfire. Ask your child to share what they’ve learned about wildfires. Then work together to help your household prepare by packing an emergency “go kit” and making a wildfire evacuation plan. Reassure your child that you will oversee the planning with their help so that they don’t feel it is their job.

Pack a Go Kit!
Read the below items that the American Red Cross recommends including in a wildfire go kit in case you need to evacuate. Have a home scavenger hunt to find and collect as many of the items as you can, and then put them in a bag or covered plastic tub that you can quickly grab in case your household needs to evacuate. Consider purchasing any items you do not have. Include any other important items your household would want to have with them in case of evacuation. Remember to plan for pets, too.

• Water: one gallon per person, per day for 3 days
• Food: non-perishable, easy-to-prepare items for 3-days (plus manual can opener)
• Flashlight
• Battery-powered or hand-crank radio (NOAA Weather Radio, if possible)
• Extra batteries
• First aid kit
• Medications (7-day supply) and medical items
• Multi-purpose tool
• Sanitation and personal hygiene items
• Copies of personal documents (medication list, medical information, proof of address, deed/lease to home, passports, birth certificates, insurance policies)
• Cell phone with chargers
• Household and emergency contact information
• Extra cash
• Emergency blanket
• Map(s) of the area
• Pet supplies (collar, leash, ID, food, carrier, bowl)
• Games and activities

Make a Wildfire Evacuation Plan
Next, work together to look at a map of your community and plan at least two evacuation routes to use in a wildfire if officials do not provide one. Also agree on a set “meeting spot” that everyone knows how to get to, in case your household becomes separated. Then outline your evacuation routes on a piece of paper or poster board and encourage your child to add landmark illustrations along each route. Make sure to include your meet-up spot and contact information. Finally, create a list of people you should notify if you must evacuate, and either write the list on your map or place it in your go bag (ideally both).

Practice, Practice, Practice
Check your emergency go kit regularly and replenish any items missing or in short supply, especially medications or medical supplies. Practice your wildfire evacuation plan as a drill at least twice a year. Make sure everyone knows your two evacuation routes and can easily find your meeting spot!

Learn More!
For more information, check out redcross.org/prepare.