

Prepare with Pedro!

HURRICANE 6



American
Red Cross

Hi! I'm Pedro!
I'm learning how
to prepare for
emergencies.



Prepare means “get ready.”

You get ready for things all the time — like when you put on a jacket and grab an umbrella to get ready for a rainy day.

I want to be ready for any emergency, so I'm learning how to stay safe when emergencies happen.



You can prepare
for emergencies, too!
Just follow me!



Pedro and his friend Martin saw a hurricane on TV.

“What is a hurricane?” asked Pedro.

“A **HURRICANE is a large storm with lots of wind and rain that moves in a circle.” answered Martin. “The winds can get very strong and the rain can cause flooding. Hurricanes can happen where we live. To prepare for them, there are some important words to know and some important things to do!”**

**HURRICANE, HURRICANE WATCH, EVACUATE, HURRICANE WARNING,
SHELTER IN PLACE, STORM SURGE, FLOODING**



“When a hurricane might be coming into our area, it’s called a **HURRICANE WATCH**. That means that we need to be prepared in case a hurricane comes!”

“Board up all windows and secure doors to stay safe from the wind. Also, bring in anything outside that might blow away, especially pets like Red.”



“You also want to make sure you have plenty of supplies, like food, water, a flashlight with batteries, medicine, and diapers for Lorena in the house.”

“Keep a radio on and listen closely in case you are told to evacuate!”



“What does evacuate mean?” asked Pedro.



Martin explains, “**EVACUATE** means you need to leave your house to go somewhere safe. If you and your family are told to evacuate, you must do this right away. Waiting to leave can be unsafe.”





“When there is a **HURRICANE WARNING**, that means there is a hurricane in our area and we need to take action! If told to do so, we evacuate right away. If not, then we **SHELTER IN PLACE** - that means we stay where we are.”



“We close all doors and windows tight, gather supplies, and stay in a safe room away from windows until the storm has passed.”

“A strong storm like a hurricane can cause the sea water to rise. This is called a **STORM SURGE**. The storm surge can cause **FLOODING**, which means there is water where there shouldn’t be!”



“Be sure to never walk or drive into water after a hurricane and stay away from objects like trees or power lines that have fallen down. You could get hurt!”



“Thanks, Martin,” said Pedro.
“I’m glad I learned what to do in case of a hurricane.
Now I know how to stay safe!”



A FEW MONTHS LATER...

Pedro was listening to the radio and heard that a hurricane might be coming in this direction. The news said his town was under a hurricane watch.



**“I know what to do!” said Pedro.
“I’m so glad I’m already prepared!”**



Pedro went outside and brought in his favorite scooter.



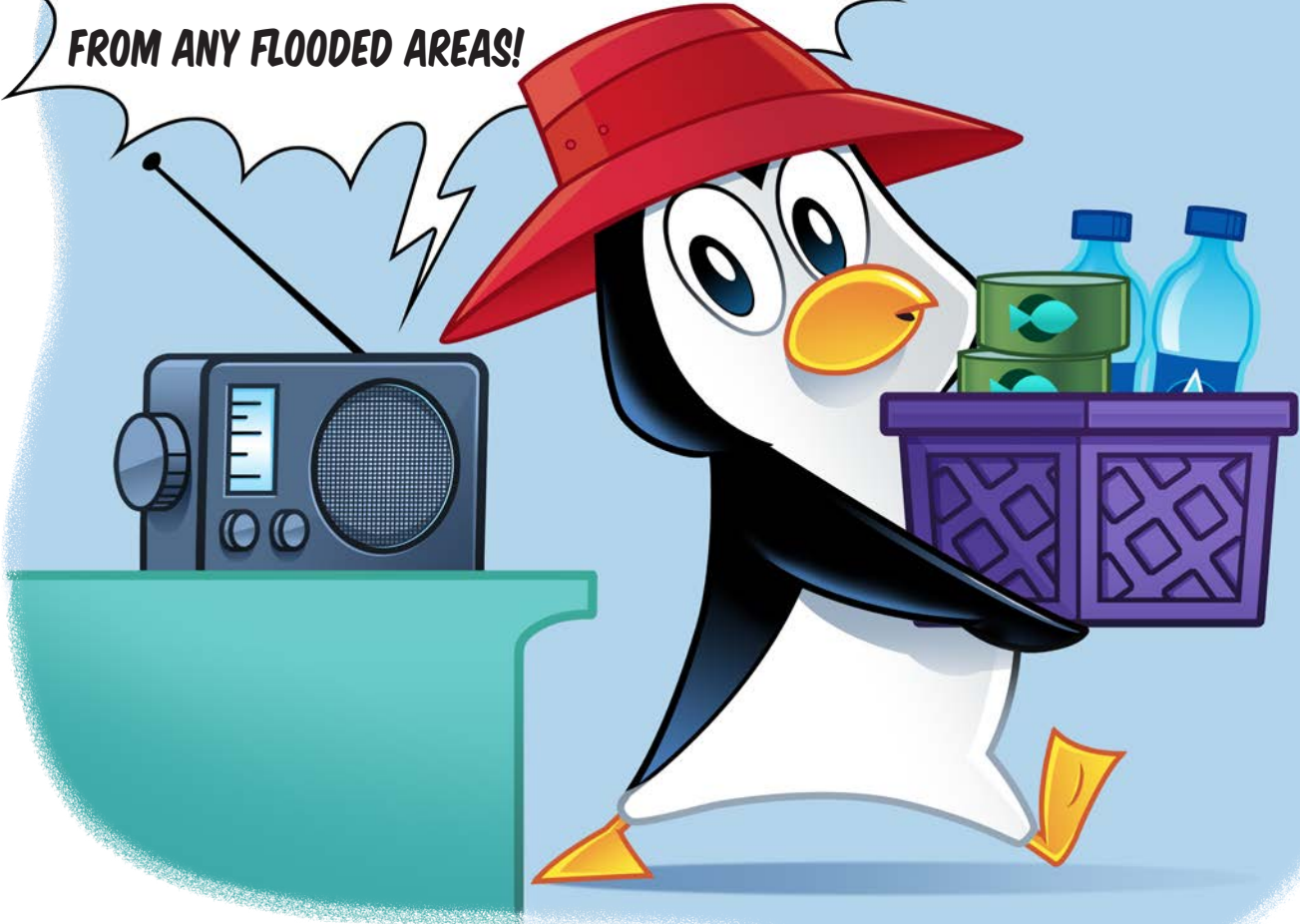
He checked all of his supplies, and listened to the radio for weather updates.



Pedro locked his doors and windows tight and got ready to board them up. He was ready to take action if there was a hurricane warning, or if he was told to evacuate.

Just then, Pedro's radio had a weather alert that said the hurricane is losing strength and has changed direction.

**NO STORM SURGE HAS HAPPENED, BUT
THERE IS A LOT OF WATER - SO STAY AWAY
FROM ANY FLOODED AREAS!**



Phew! Pedro was glad he practiced how to be prepared and take action, so that if a hurricane does come he will know what to do to stay safe!

Chill Out with Pedro!



Wow!
Practicing for emergencies is exciting. But it makes me feel nervous, too. So I take big, slow breaths to calm down.



Breathe in slowly through your nose, like me.



Then breathe out slowly through your mouth.

After just five or six breaths, I feel better and start to relax. Try it yourself and see!



Grownups -

We hope that your child has enjoyed learning how to prepare for an emergency! To learn more, please visit:
www.redcross.org/prepare and **www.ready.gov/kids**.



Pedro's Safety Checklist

- ☐ Make a family emergency plan that everyone understands.
- ☐ Make a family emergency supplies kit and keep it updated.
- ☐ Start saving for an emergency fund.

Did you know that home fires affect more homes in the U.S. than all other emergencies combined?

- ☐ Practice your home fire escape drill - be sure you can get outside in 2 minutes or less!
- ☐ Test all smoke alarms once a month.



**American
Red Cross**



FEMA