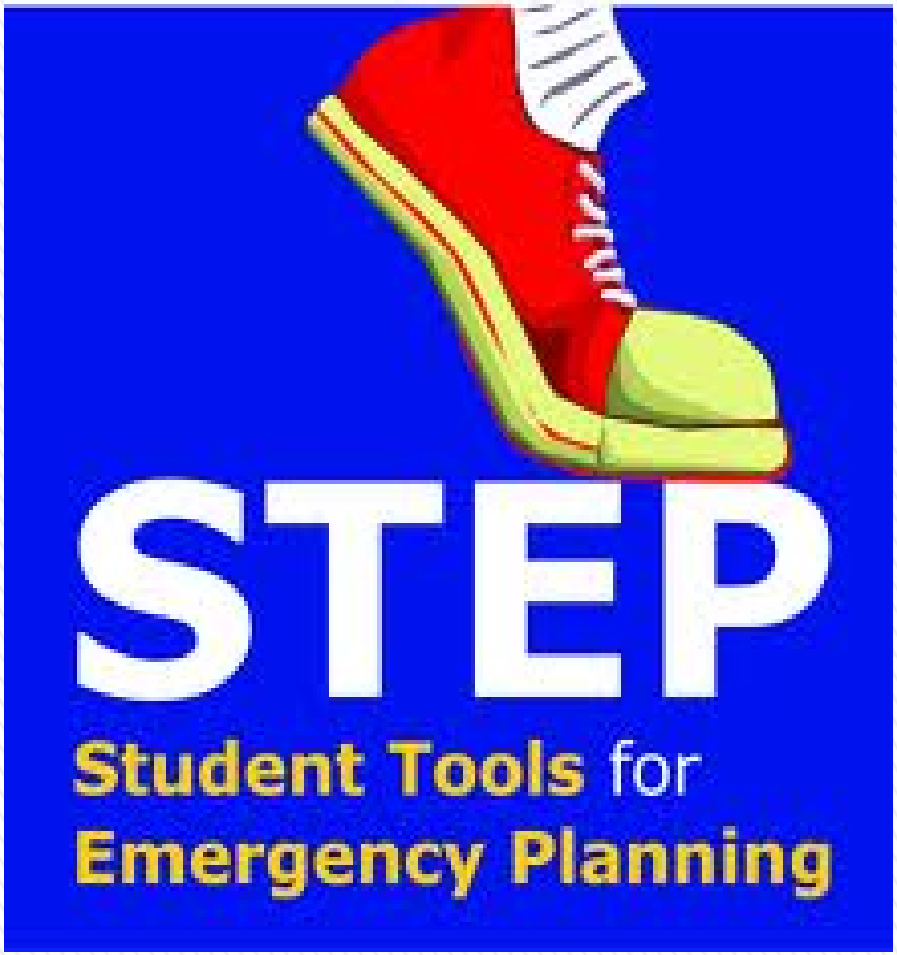


Tennie M. Shardlow, M.Ed, CHES, C-LSW
Public Outreach Specialist
Maine Partners in Preparedness Conference
Augusta Civic Center
April 24-25, 2012

What is the STEP Program?

- A *standards-based* emergency preparedness education project geared towards 5th grade level students.
- Supported by New England State Emergency Management.
- A program that has been taught to more than 20,000 students in New England since 2008.
- Completely FREE of charge to participating schools.

The STEP Program has three main learning objectives:

1. Students will gain knowledge of emergencies common to their area and strategies for appropriately reacting to those emergencies.
2. Students will assemble emergency kits with their families.
3. Students will form communication plans with their families.

The STEP Program: Standards-Based Instruction in Emergency Preparedness

STEP lessons were designed to cover various standards which are adaptable to fit into various different subject areas, including:

- ✓ Math
- ✓ Science
- ✓ Social Studies
- ✓ Language Arts
- ✓ Arts
- ✓ Health

STEP Program components:

BASE LESSON (required with only 1-1.5 hours of instructional time)

- Letters to Families
- Introduction (Tilly story)
- Activity & Discussion (Disaster Dudes Video)
- What Goes in an Emergency Kit
- Homework Assignment
- Family Emergency Information Sheet
- Family Communication Plan Cards
- STEP Emergency Training Certificate of Achievement

STEP Program components:

Supplemental Lessons & Instructor Resources Provided (suggested but not required):

- Disaster Dudes Game (Jeopardy – Literacy)
- Emergency Planning Poster Suggestions (Art)
- Emergency Role Play Scenarios (Performing Arts)
- Student Reading List (Literacy Instruction)
- STEP Language Arts Activity Sheet (Language Arts)
- STEP Mathematics Activity Sheet (Mathematics)
- Mapping Meeting Places (Science)
- Promoting Preparedness (Literacy & Oral Presentation)
- Disaster Hot Off the Presses (Literacy)
- *DisasterAssistance.Gov* Word Search Activity (Literacy)
- Open House & Graduation (Community Inclusion)

Disaster Dudes Video

- a 14-minute live action video.
- a staple part of the STEP required base lesson
- Instructors have found this lesson extremely easy to teach because of the talking points provided in the Instructor Guide that go along with the video.
- Stopping points in the video allow teachers to focus the class on important discussion topics.
- shows how kids can prepare for a disaster by:
- being aware of dangers in their area,
- building an emergency supply kit,
- talking with their families to plan for different scenarios.

STEP Bags

THERMAL BLANKET

FLASHLIGHT w/BATTERIES
(batteries NOT in flashlight)

WHISTLE

WATERBOTTLE

GRANOLA BAR

STEP Program Resources Websites and Additional School-Preparedness Websites:

STEP Student Tools for Emergency Planning — RIEMA — Brought to you by RIEMA

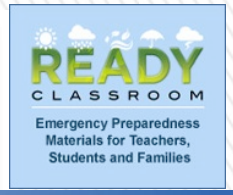
http://www.riema.ri.gov/step/instructional_materials.html

STEP Student Tools for Emergency Planning — RIEMA — Brought to you by RIEMA **- For Kids**

http://www.riema.ri.gov/step/for_kids.html

BE PREPARED IN EVERY SITUATION

http://www.ready.gov/kids



MAINE PREPARES

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS, AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

MAINE PREPARES

MAINE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY | STATE OF MAINE

www.MainePrepares.com

STEP Program & Disaster Preparedness

For additional information regarding the *STEP Program* or other disaster outreach instruction, please contact:

Tennie M. Shardlow, M.Ed, CHES, C-LSW
Public Outreach Specialist
Maine Emergency Management Agency
45 Commerce Ctr, SHS 0072 ~ Suite 2
Augusta, Maine 04333-0072
207-624-4444
207-287-3189
Toll Free: 1-800-458-8735
tennie.m.shardlow@maine.gov