STEP
Student Tools for Emergency Planning

What is STEP?

The Student Tools for Emergency Planning program, known as STEP, is a simple and effective preparedness education project developed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). STEP is free and is designed to educate fifth-graders on the importance of preparing for emergencies and provide students with the knowledge to help their families prepare.

Learning Objectives

- Students will learn general knowledge about disasters common to their area.
- Students will assemble emergency kits to help their families.
- Students will form communication plans with their families.

STEP Curriculum

STEP lesson materials are ready to use as they were designed by teachers, for teachers. Materials include instructor guides, 5 online YouTube videos, copies of student handouts, and starter kit backpacks for all participating students. All materials are provided – at no cost.

Teachers are required to dedicate at least one hour to teach the core lesson with streamlined objectives for a manageable time commitment in the classroom. STEP materials include up to 8 hours of optional lessons, to meet national standards and include math, language arts, science, and performing arts.

Success of STEP

Michigan began offering STEP in the 2011-2012 school year, teaching more than 350 students. STEP continued growing statewide, with more than 6,400 fifth-graders learning the importance of preparedness during the 2014-2015 school year.

While only one-hour of instruction is required, some teachers choose to teach 5-8 hours of STEP lessons. If a school needs assistance with teaching the curriculum, they are encouraged to reach out to the STEP state coordinator, local first responders, or Citizen Corps volunteers.

Every Student Gets a **FREE** Starter Kit!

With blankets, flashlights and more!

Contact:

Ms. Jane Yount
(517) 333-5023
emhsd-citizencorps@michigan.gov
www. michigan.gov/step

Michigan State Police
Emergency Management &
Homeland Security Division

FEMA

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Michigan STEP Program 2015-2016

Michigan is once again offering the free STEP program to fifth grade classes with the goal of educating 8,000 students statewide in the STEP curriculum during the 2015-2016 school year.

Getting Involved is **FREE**

- All fifth grade classes in Michigan are eligible to participate in the STEP program, with the requirement that all fifth-graders in the school must participate.
- Getting involved is as simple as submitting an application to the Michigan State Police by **Friday November 6, 2015.**
- Teachers or administrators may apply to participate in the STEP program on behalf of their school, although an administrator will have to approve participation in the program.
- Selection of school participants will be complete by late November.
- Once selected, STEP materials will be distributed to schools by the end of December.
- Instruction of STEP curriculum must be complete by the end of the 2015-2016 school year.

Selection Criteria

In support of the program's objectives, schools will be selected to participate in the Michigan STEP program based on two primary criteria:

- Participation of all fifth grade classes in the school
- Date of application submission

To register: go to www.michigan.gov/step

In Step with STEP

Schools participating in the STEP program will be required to sign an agreement indicating all fifth-graders in the school (not just one or two classrooms) will be taught at least the core one-hour STEP curriculum. Schools are also required to participate in a survey evaluating the STEP program following completion.

Teacher Testimonial

"The program provided a great opportunity for students to reflect on their personal experiences, as well as discuss additional strategies that they could use with their families to be safe"

– Mr. Shepherd, 5th grade teacher at Whiteford Agricultural School, Ottawa Lake

"The program provides important information that students need to hear and talk about."

– Mr. Wilzius. 5th grade teacher, Woodland Elementary School, Kingsford

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