



## GO BAG CHALLENGE

Determine what it takes to be prepared for dangerous weather conditions.

### Materials

- A large box
- A backpack
- A pair of waterproof shoes
- A flashlight
- A bicycle helmet
- A battery powered radio (optional)
- Other miscellaneous household items
- A timer (digital or physical)

### Procedure

- Set aside your backpack and have your parent put all the other items into the large box.
- Grab your backpack and have your parent set your timer to 1 minute.
- Here's the story: There is a Tornado Warning and you only have 1 minute to gather all the items you need from the box. You don't have to grab everything, only what you think is essential. Be sure to put it all in your backpack.
- When your minute is up, head to what you think is the safest room in the house during a tornado.
- Talk to your parents about your decisions. Did you only grab essentials? How did you determine if something was essential? Which room did you go to? How is that room safer than other rooms in your house? And finally, how did you feel having to pack and make decisions so quickly?

### Results

Trying to pack the go bag in a rush is hard and stressful. You should pack your go bag and make plans before the weather gets bad so you can always be prepared.

*You and your family can prepare by creating an emergency family plan. Talk with your parents about where emergency supplies are kept, the best way to evacuate the house, and where to meet in case disaster strikes away from home. Learn more about family preparedness at [Ready.gov/kids](https://www.ready.gov/kids).*



### Why?

Emergency weather conditions can develop quickly so it's important to make a plan with your family beforehand. Being prepared for an emergency isn't just about staying safe during a storm or a disaster. It's also about how to stay comfortable, clean, fed, and healthy afterwards—especially when a storm or disaster may have knocked out electricity. Your go kit should be a collection of basic items you might need to stay safe up to 72 hours after an emergency. Plan with your family to determine what basic items are most important to have in your go bag, and keep one stored in a dry place for future emergencies.

To learn more about weather, check out the Pink Palace Museum's *Weather Whys* Program.