

Student Safety Topic: Severe Weather Awareness Week

Why It's Important:

The National Weather Service designated February 25 through March 3 as Severe Weather Awareness Week in Arkansas. While it is important to be prepared for severe weather throughout the year, during this designated week the National Weather Service encourages citizens to review safety rules and learn more about the dangers associated with severe thunderstorms.

Be Prepared:

Here are several tips to help you prepare for severe weather:

- Become familiar with the school's severe weather plan, including dismissal processes should severe weather occur.
- Make sure your child's school has your current contact information in case of an emergency.
- Discuss the school's severe weather plan with your students so they know what to expect.
- Develop a severe weather plan with your child at home. Be sure to discuss alternate meeting locations should an emergency occur.
- Let your students help identify things to include in an emergency kit. Share this list with your students' parents.
- Consider investing in a battery-powered weather radio.
- It is important to access weather information from accurate and reliable sources, such as the National Weather Service or your local television and radio stations.

Visit our webpage for additional resources!
<http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/communications/my-childmy-student>

College & Career Readiness Topic: Testing

Why is it important?

Testing is an essential part of learning because it assesses the knowledge and skills your child/student has acquired. Not only do tests help identify gaps in learning, tests also can identify areas of growth. Students and parents can use this information to set goals and formulate study plans.

How to prepare

Parents and teachers should work together to emphasize good study habits with their child/student. Encourage your child/student to begin studying early for an exam. Information is better retained when it is frequently reviewed over an extended period of time. In addition to seeking assistance when needed, it is important that your child/student get plenty of rest prior to the test. A well-rested brain can recall information better and faster than a tired one.

Celebrate Successes!

Remember that test scores are only one way to measure student learning. No matter how well your child/student performs, be sure to celebrate the skills and knowledge your child/student demonstrates. Also use the information to set new goals.

Continue the conversation...

- Why is academic testing important?
- How can I help prepare my child/my student for testing?
- What can I do to reduce test anxiety?
- What severe weather safety tips should I share with my child/my student?
- What is the difference between severe weather watches and warnings?
- How do I access reliable information during severe weather?