



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KEEP CHILDREN LEARNING OVER THE SUMMER BY LOGGING ONTO OHIO EMA KIDS PAGE

Columbus (June 1, 2006) – While schools throughout the state are ready to dismiss students for the summer, officials at the Ohio Emergency Management Agency would like to remind parents, daycare providers and camp counselors of a web site that helps children learn, while they have fun. Children, parents and teachers can become involved in family preparedness and weather education by logging onto the Ohio EMA Kids Page at http://www.ema.ohio.gov/kids_page/index.htm.

“The web site engages children in fun activities while learning valuable information that may save lives,” said Ohio EMA Executive Director Nancy Dragani. “Having your children know what to do when a disaster happens is invaluable.”

In the fun game section, memory building skills are tested in “Tornado Match-Up.” Children can learn about mitigation and why it’s important in “Mitigation Scrambler” and what items they should put in a disaster kit through a hidden picture. There is also a word search and a safety crossword puzzle.

A printer-friendly activity book can found on the parents and teachers site, as well as additional links to agencies that deal with safety, preparedness, and weather.

“Disasters do not just happen while you are home, they can also happen when on vacation,” Dragani said.

The links to other preparedness agencies are also valuable information. The links provide families and church groups traveling to areas outside of the state with different weather scenarios that we may not experience in Ohio. The sites give information on how to prepare for wildfires, hurricanes, volcanoes and tsunamis.

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