Scenario Six: Pet Preparedness for Kids

Welcome to PrepareAthon! A key element to successfully responding to and recovering from a major disaster is the overall preparedness of individual citizens and their families. With that in mind, we invite you to participate in a series of ‘What would you do?’ scenarios with your loved ones in order to assess your level of preparedness. These tabletop activities are intended to be low-stress conversation starters to be discussed, as the name implies, around your dinner table. We do not want to know your results; only that you participated. Following the situation we have included some discussion questions for your tabletop activity, as well as some helpful links to enhance your individual preparedness. Good luck and thank you for participating in America’s PrepareAthon!

Scenario: A major hurricane is going to bring a lot of rain and flooding to your town. You and your family have been told you need to leave your home and stay in a safe shelter until the storm has passed. You don’t want to stay in the house where it could be dangerous but you don’t want to leave your pet. What can you do?

Discussion Questions:
1. What would you do with your pet if you had to evacuate your house?
2. Close your eyes. Describe your pet or pets without looking at them.
3. Do you know if your town has pet-friendly shelters? Do know where you could find that information?
4. Do you know if your town has pet-friendly hotels, in case your family decides to stay in a hotel rather than a shelter?
5. What items should you put into your pet emergency kit?
6. Do you know the name of your pet’s doctor (veterinarian)? Do you have his/her phone number? Do you have a record of your pet’s shots?
7. Does your pet have an updated tag on its collar? Do you have recent photos of your pet for identification?
8. How would you locate your pet if you were separated?

Time to see how you did!
To learn more about this scenario and to check your plan, go to https://community.fema.gov/take-action/hazards. Discuss with your loved ones what steps you think you should do in order to improve your pet’s safety in the event such a tragedy occurs.

Helpful Links
To learn more about pet preparedness, please visit https://www.fema.gov/helping-pets
But first, please don’t forget to register that you participated in the activity on America’s PrepareAthon website http://www.community.fema.gov/AP_Register