

What to do if there is an Emergency at School

A story for preparing children in elementary schools for emergencies and drills.



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Everyone that works in schools wants children to be safe and happy at school. Teachers tell us what to do when we are in our classroom, in the cafeteria, in the bathroom, and playing outside. Teachers also help us practice what to do if there is an emergency at school. This is called a drill. It is important to listen to the teacher all the time especially when there is an emergency.





Sometimes we have emergency drills at school. We don't always know when drills will happen. We practice drills to stay safe. Drills will only last a short time. Usually, it is NOT a real emergency.

First, we may hear a loud alarm and/or an announcement. We must STOP and LISTEN. The teacher will say "please listen". There may be an announcement that an intruder, someone we do not know, has entered the school. We may hear "lockdown an intruder has entered the school".



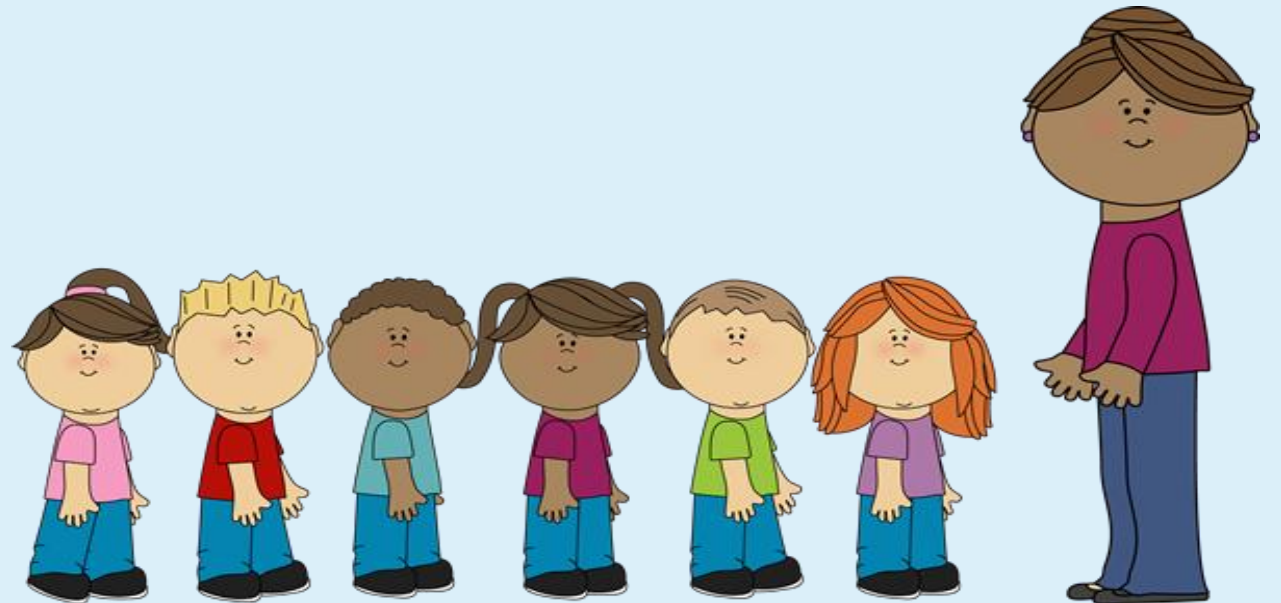


The teacher may tell us to sit very quietly in the back of the classroom and spread out in different spots. We need to stay away from the door. The teacher may have to turn off all the lights and block the door. It may be very dark. It is important to sit very quietly and wait. This is called a lockdown.

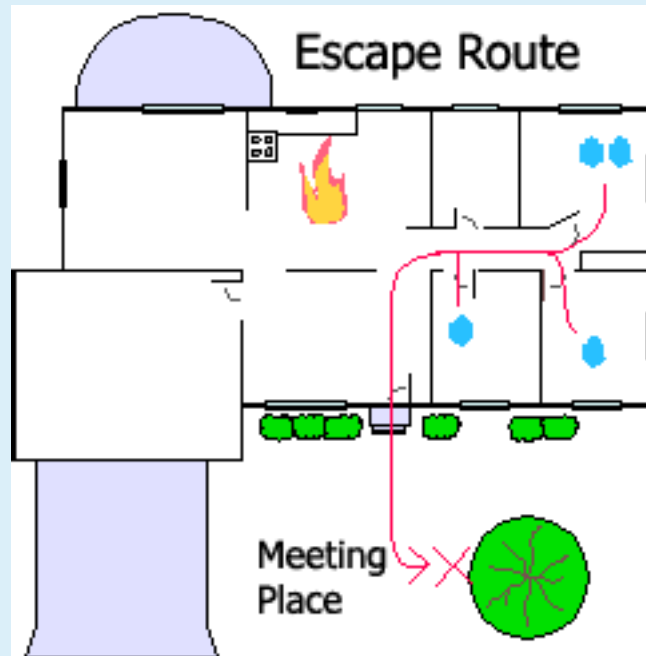


During a lockdown, sometimes the teacher may move classroom furniture in front of the door. This is called a barricade. A barricade helps to protect us from an intruder getting into the classroom.

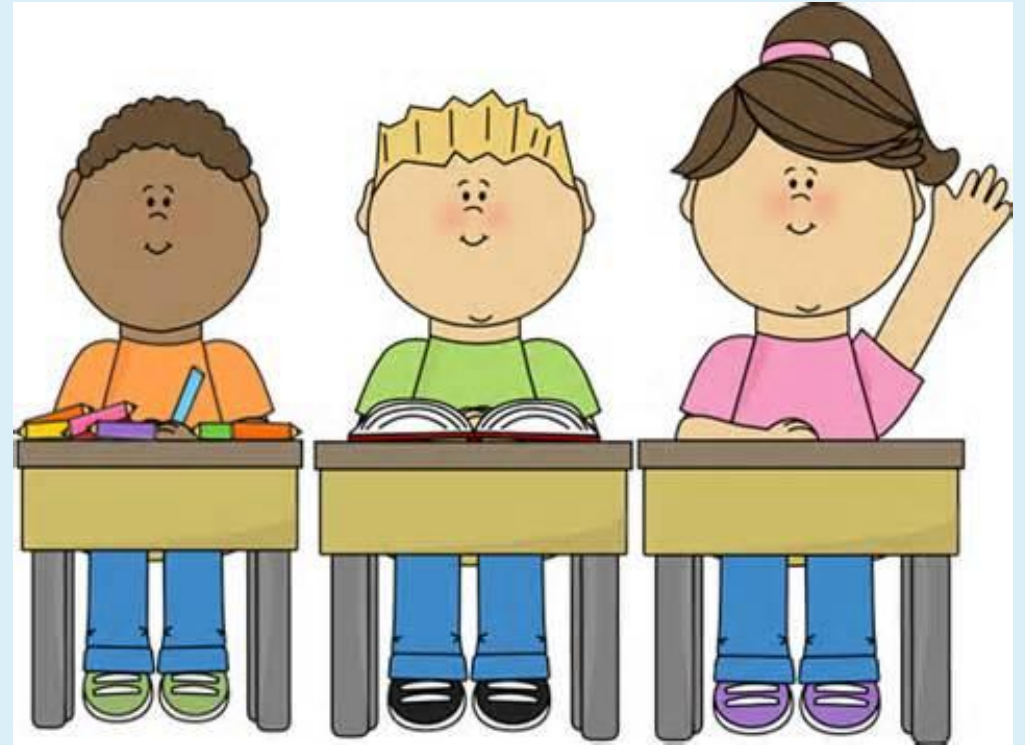
Sometimes the teacher may tell all us to stand in line and be very quiet. We may have to go to a different part of the school. When we leave our classroom, this is called an evacuation.



Sometimes, the teacher may tell us to stand up and run outside to our meeting place which is called a rally point.



Sometimes we may have a soft lockdown. We will continue our normal school day in our classroom, but not be able to go outside.





During an emergency, police officers may come into the school. Students and teachers must always listen to police officers. They help everyone stay safe when there is an emergency.



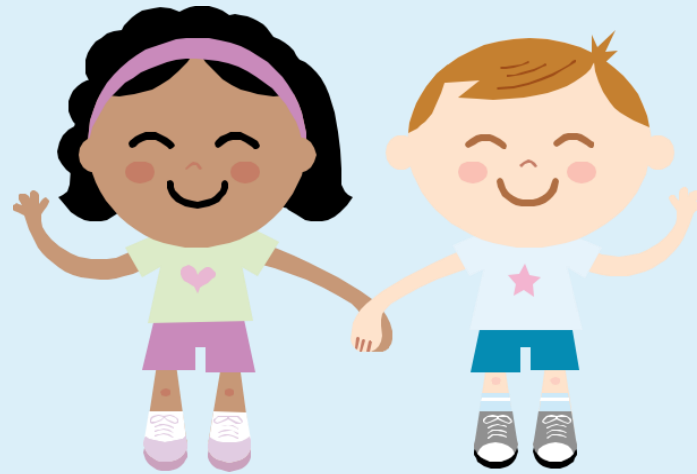
During an emergency, fire fighters may come into the school. Students and teachers must always listen to fire fighters. They help everyone stay safe when there is an emergency.





We will always listen to the teacher and do what the teacher tells us. In some emergencies, the teacher may tell us to get on a bus or walk to a different place with a teacher to meet our parents. This is called a reunification site.

All schools practice emergency drills. We practice **emergency drills** so that we are safe and happy every day at school. We will continue to practice drills and emergency situations. We now know what to do when there is an emergency at school.



We like being safe at school.