Objectives

Students use critical thinking skills plus disaster knowledge in order to agree on the most important items to include in a Disaster Supply Kit. The list below is adapted from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA):

Instructions

Students work in groups. Each group analyzes the list of items below and rank orders them 1 through 10 (1 is most important, 10 is least important). The group must agree on their decisions together. Note that it is possible for each group to add an item of their choosing to the list.

- **Toys, books and games.**
- **Water** – at least 3 liters per person per day, for 3-7 days.
- **Food** – enough for 3-7 days.
- **First Aid** – medicines, bandages, etc.
- **Pet care items** – for dogs, cats, etc.
- **Radio** – with batteries.
- **Cell phone** – fully charged with an extra battery.
- **Money** – coins, small bills, plus credit cards (banks and ATMs may not be open).
- **Tools** – hammer, screwdriver, saw, etc.
- **Other (you choose)** –

Assessment

There is no one set of “correct” answers for this activity. The emphasis is on the negotiation of meaning and the decision-making process among learners in each group. The teacher can have students tell or write about their final Disaster Supply List, explaining why some items are more important than others.