

VANCOUVER TALMUD TORAH

EARTHQUAKE COMFORT KIT INSTRUCTIONS

Vancouver Talmud Torah aims to maintain Earthquake Comfort Kits for every enrolled student. These kits are small packages that will help your child cope in the event of an earthquake during school hours, and we ask that you prepare your child's kit with the intent that items will remain appropriate throughout their career at the school. The kits are stored by class in a large container outside. Please use a large Ziploc bag (approximately 10" x 12") to create your child's kit, clearly labeled with their *name only*.

We appreciate your cooperation in providing a kit for your child in a timely manner and hope that you find the list of suggested items useful. You may wish to enlist your child's help, but please be sure to follow the guidelines outlined below:

1. Emergency Contact Card

This card is critical as it will serve as your child's identification. It will be inserted in a plastic sleeve to be worn around your child's neck. Information may be updated every September.

- (a) Use pencil or a waterproof pen.
- (b) Complete all information on both sides of the card.
- (c) Alternate person to pick up child might be a friend, relative or neighbour who would likely be in the area of the school. It is possible that roads would be restricted to emergency vehicle use only. Specify if someone *does not* have authority to pick up child.
- (d) Out of area contact person *must be someone outside the earthquake zone*. Vancouver Island, Coastal BC and Washington State are not suitable choices. If your contact person is in a (250) area code, *please specify where*. It is possible that local telephone companies may not be operating so out of province would be best. Overseas numbers are acceptable.
- (e) Attach photo.

2. Medication

Any special medication your child may need – ventolin inhaler, epipen, seizure medication, etc. Check expiry dates and provide an adequate supply. Complete first aid supplies are provided by the school, but please note that any medication you have provided to the school office for your child may not be available in the event of an earthquake. Medication is returned every June with an opportunity to replace it every September.

3. Food and Drink

Please do not send food or drink. Basic food and water for each child is provided by the school. The only exception will be if your child has specific dietary requirements, in which case you may provide appropriate food for inclusion in your child's kit. *Any other food or drink is not acceptable and will be returned to you.*

4. Plastic Garbage Bags

A large bag with holes cut out for your child's head and arms may be used for protection. A smaller bag may be used as a head covering. An inexpensive rain poncho is also suitable and can be found wherever camping equipment is sold, at dollar stores, etc.

5. Personal Items

It may be a long wait for children confined to a small area.

- Photograph of your child's family or other significant people
- Note of comfort and reassurance to your child
- Item of comfort, i.e., a piece of their favourite blanket, special book, toy, etc.
- Deck of cards, mini game, book, toy, notebook and pencil
- Space blanket/bag (very lightweight and compact – available for \$5 to \$10 wherever camping equipment is sold)
- Hat/gloves
- Hand warmers
- Lightsticks (check expiry date)
- Kleenex packs
- Baby wipe packs

Any item with batteries is not acceptable and will be returned to you.

Please remember that space is limited, so all items must fit in the Ziploc bag. Please do not staple bag.

Thank you for your help in making this program a success! If you have any questions, please direct them to Debbie Broadley at 604-736-7307 or by email to dbroadley@talmudtorah.com.

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED KIT TO YOUR CHILD'S CLASSROOM BY FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2009