

PRIORITIZING SAFETY THROUGH LIFE-SAVING DRILLS

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Drills for disaster preparedness in schools are essential for safeguarding the safety and welfare of students and staff during crises. Schools act as a second home for kids, making it essential for them to possess the skills and knowledge to react appropriately to possible disasters. Practices like fire evacuations, earthquake drills, and lockdown training assist in making students acquainted with safety procedures, fostering a sense of assurance and composure during actual emergencies. Additionally, these practices enhance the overall safety culture within the school community, emphasizing the significance of readiness for all involved parties.

An important advantage of disaster preparedness exercises is their capacity to reduce panic and confusion in times of crisis. When students and staff receive regular practice and training, they tend to react in a systematic and effective way. For instance, fire drills instruct students on safe evacuation and designated pathways, whereas earthquake drills emphasize "drop, cover, and hold" methods to shield themselves from falling objects. These exercises also offer teachers a chance to recognize and tackle shortcomings in the school's emergency response strategy, making sure that protocols are modified and improved as required.

Besides physical readiness, disaster drills are essential for developing emotional resilience. Through the simulation of emergencies, students acquire skills to handle stress and make rapid decisions under pressure. Schools can improve these drills by including age-appropriate conversations about safety and mental health, aiding children in realizing the significance of remaining calm and attentive. Engaging parents in these

exercises, whether via communication or involvement, guarantees a cohesive strategy for disaster readiness, connecting the school and home environment.

In the end, conducting disaster preparedness drills is a commitment to the safety and future of students. When schools emphasize consistent and practical drills, they foster an atmosphere that encourages awareness, accountability, and collaboration. These initiatives not only safeguard lives but also enable students and staff to confront emergencies with bravery and readiness. By fostering a culture of preparedness, schools guarantee that their communities are ready to handle the unforeseen difficulties of natural and human-induced disasters.

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