

Why emergency supplies are important: Anita's story

One day last winter when Anita came home from school, her mom said, "We have to get ready. A winter storm is coming. There could be ice and snow, and we may have to stay inside the house for awhile."



A few minutes later, the power went out. Anita and her mom went to the closet where they kept their emergency supplies. They took out their **FLASHLIGHTS** and **RADIO**. They put **BATTERIES** inside each one and turned them on. The news said the storm could last for days.



When it came time for dinner a few hours later, Anita's mom went back to the emergency supplies and took out some **CANNED FOOD** and a **CAN OPENER**. They could not cook without power, but Anita thought it was fun to eat cold green beans, tuna and canned spaghetti.

Anita's dad went to the sink to wash the dishes, but said, "Uh-oh! The water is out! The pipes must be frozen." He went to the emergency supplies and took out the family's **BOTTLED WATER** so they could have water to drink and brush their teeth. Luckily, Anita's parents knew that everyone should have three days worth of **FOOD** and **WATER** stored for an emergency.

Anita used one of the **FLASHLIGHTS** to walk to the bathroom to brush her teeth, but accidentally fell and skinned her knee. Her dad went to the emergency supplies and took out the **FIRST AID KIT**. He washed her knee with the **BOTTLED WATER** and applied one of the **BANDAGES**. "It's a good thing we have emergency supplies," said Anita's mom.



Anita went to bed bundled up in **BLANKETS**. The next morning she woke up and looked out the window — everything was white. There was ice and snow on the trees and ground. "Guess what, Anita? School is canceled," said Anita's mom. Thanks to their **EMERGENCY SUPPLIES**, Anita knew her family would be safe staying inside the house all day. ■

QUESTIONS TO ANSWER:

- 1) Name three things that Anita and her family had in their emergency supplies.
- 2) Why did Anita's family need batteries?
- 3) How many days should you have enough food and water stored for?

