

Module one: what is an emergency?

Guidance notes

Module aim: to have an understanding that an emergency is a sudden crisis requiring immediate help and be able to give examples of different emergencies.

Resources:

- > A dressing up box if available for activity three
- > Name labels/stickers for characters
- > Paper and coloured pens if the group wants to do posters/storyboards/plays instead
- > Green, yellow and red pens for extension activity
- > Flip chart or sugar paper for brainstorm and disaster web activity
- > A telephone for demonstrating role-plays
- > A backpack and props if time allows for activity two (phone/radio/make-up)

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Hints and tips:

- > Before starting the module, you might want to have a discussion on 'what we think an emergency is' and ask if group members have ever been involved in such an incident.
- > After activity two, you might discuss how the group made their decision. Did everyone agree – was there anything missing that they wanted?
- > Before role-plays (activity three) the girls can make a list of what their character needs and who they think might help them. The Red Cross would try to help in each of these scenarios so there is no 'wrong' answer for this activity.
- > Instead of role-play, the girls could write a play about their scenario, create a cartoon strip, design a poster or write a story about a 'day in the life' of their character.

Try it this way:

- > Groups larger than six people need to double up characters for activity three. Smaller groups need to remove characters (from 1-5)
- > Alternatively, the girls could become a 'family' instead of single characters.
- > Mix groups so that the girls interact with others outside their six/patrol/group.

Useful facts and figures: for interest!

- > In the last decade, almost two billion people have been affected by disasters.
- > There are 37 million displaced people in the world, forced to flee their homes and seek shelter elsewhere.
- > Possible humanitarian crises are caused by war, drought, flooding, volcanoes, cyclones, typhoons, hurricanes, famine, earthquakes, epidemics, explosions, fires and tsunamis, among others.
- > The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement carries out relief operations to help people in crisis, and combines this with development work to strengthen the capacity of local communities to prepare for and withstand disasters.
- > For further information, visit redcross.org.uk
- > If you have any particular questions, please contact us at powerofhumanity@redcross.org.uk