

# Alberta Emergency Test Alert Toolkit

## School resource guide

### Opportunity to build resilience

On March 1, 2023 at 1:55 p.m. – the first day of wildfire season – Alberta Emergency Alert (AEA) will send out a test alert through various platforms, including; radio, television, the AEA mobile application, as well as a wireless public alert message that sends broadcast-intrusive, life-saving emergency alert messages directly to compatible smartphones. This is a national initiative conducted twice per year across Canada by participating provinces and territories.

During the test, the critical alert siren will go off with a message to Albertans through various platforms, including all cellphones, confirming there is no need for concern. The test is an opportunity for all of us to practice preparedness when the risk is low, so we are ready to respond when the risk is high. This guide will help teachers and schools across Alberta use the public alerting test as a teaching moment in classrooms. The test alert creates space to discuss preparedness in the classroom and to encourage students to go home and have a conversation with their household about developing or updating their own emergency plan. Watch this 1-minute video to learn more: <https://youtu.be/hVLW7E41BzQ>

### Suggestion for in-class discussion

1. **On Wednesday, March 1, 2023.** That morning, advise the school or classroom that the Government of Alberta is testing the AEA system. The school will use the test alert to practice individual preparedness skills with students.
2. **Following the test alert at 1:55 p.m. conduct your 15-30 minute activity.** Facilitate a classroom discussion using the activity guide on page 2. Adjust the activities to fit your classroom.
3. **Key learning objective.** Empower students to see that they have the skills they need to manage unexpected situations. Let's practice preparedness together so we're ready for anything.
4. **Key outcome.** Encourage students to go home and share their classroom discussions with their household. Provide the students with an emergency kit checklist from [alberta.ca/communityprep](https://alberta.ca/communityprep) to help them start their preparedness journey at home.

## Activity guide

Lesson	Discussion and Activity	Resources
<p><b>Get informed and stay informed</b></p> <p>Information can help you to make more informed decisions during times of stress.</p> <p>Apps like <a href="#">Alberta Emergency Alert</a>, <a href="#">Wildfire</a>, and <a href="#">WeatherCAN</a> can help keep you safe.</p> <p><b>Get informed</b> by finding trusted sources of information and downloading alert apps before an emergency occurs.</p> <p><b>Stay informed</b> by following your trusted sources of information for updates that can help you take appropriate actions.</p>	<p><b>Time: 5 – 10 minutes</b></p> <p><b>Ask:</b> Do you know the difference between an evacuation alert and an evacuation order?</p> <p><b>Watch the video listed under Resources</b></p> <p><b>Brainstorm:</b> Different scenarios that may require an evacuation alert or order.</p> <p><b>Call to action:</b> Go home and talk to your household about how to get informed of emergency situations.</p>	<p><b>Video:</b></p> <p><a href="#">How can you prepare to evacuate?</a></p> <p><b>Web pages:</b></p> <p><a href="#">Alberta.ca/BePrepared</a></p> <p><a href="#">Alberta Emergency Alert</a></p> <p><a href="#">Active emergency updates</a></p> <p><a href="#">Government of Alberta Apps</a></p>
<p><b>Build an emergency kit and gather supplies</b></p> <p>Having a grab-and-go kit that contains water, extra medication, and first aid supplies can help you stay safe and comfortable in case you have to leave home suddenly.</p> <p>Having extra supplies at home, such as bottled water, extra medication, or non-perishable food can make a big difference if you need to stay home for an extended period.</p>	<p><b>Time: 5-10 minutes</b></p> <p><b>Ask:</b> Do you have supplies and a kit prepared to keep you safe?</p> <p><b>Watch a video listed under Resources</b></p> <p><b>Brainstorm:</b> Different supplies (preparedness is personal) to have at home. What are the most important items to have with you if you had to evacuate?</p> <p><b>Call to action:</b> go home, talk to your household about the emergency kit checklist, and build a kit together.</p>	<p><b>Videos:</b></p> <p><a href="#">Why should you have an emergency kit?</a></p> <p><a href="#">What goes in your emergency kit?</a></p> <p><a href="#">Low cost ways to prepare</a></p> <p><b>Web pages:</b></p> <p><a href="#">Build an emergency kit</a></p> <p><b>Checklists:</b></p> <p><a href="#">Emergency kit checklist</a></p> <p><a href="#">Emergency kit checklist for your pets</a></p>
<p><b>Make an emergency plan</b></p> <p>Disasters often cause confusion and distress. An <a href="#">emergency plan</a> can help you cope with the stress and navigate the situation better.</p> <p>Create an emergency plan that works for you, your household, and pets.</p>	<p><b>Time: 5 – 10 minutes</b></p> <p><b>Ask:</b> What can you do to be prepared before an emergency?</p> <p><b>Watch a video listed under Resources</b></p> <p><b>Brainstorm:</b> What are some skills you've developed from school emergency drills that can help you plan for other situations?</p> <p><b>Call to action:</b> Go home and talk to your household about what you would do if the alert had been real and you were ordered to evacuate.</p>	<p><b>Videos:</b></p> <p><a href="#">How can you be prepared before an emergency?</a></p> <p><b>Fact sheets:</b></p> <p><a href="#">What to do before an emergency</a></p> <p><a href="#">Emergency preparedness for pets</a></p> <p><b>Web pages:</b></p> <p><a href="#">Alberta.ca/MakeAPlan</a></p> <p><a href="#">Alberta.ca/PetPrep</a></p>

Please send feedback or questions to [BePrepared@gov.ab.ca](mailto:BePrepared@gov.ab.ca). Thank you.

BePrepared, [alberta.ca/BePrepared](https://alberta.ca/BePrepared)

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