Preschoolers through teens can create their own survival kit, choosing their items without any research. This activity provides parents the opportunity to see what is important to their kids, and whether or not the choices would be helpful in an emergency situation. Kids think about the world differently than adults, and this activity may reveal some of these differences.

Have your kids put together a survival kit full of the items they think they would need to survive in an emergency. Younger kids will need a box, a suitcase, or a blanket to gather their survival kit items; this can be an individual project or a cooperative activity. Tweens and teens may be satisfied with a list, a photo collage, or other digital creation instead of a physical kit.

When everyone is done, use the objects selected as a “think about it” activity. Would this be helpful if the power went out? Could this be carried somewhere? See what kinds of thoughts your kids are working through and be certain to comfort them and remind them that they have grownups in their lives to look out for them.

If your kids enjoyed this survival activity, try creating different survival situations: Amazonian jungle, somewhere in Great Basin National Park, or the far reaches of Canadian Northwest Territories, or downtown Colorado Springs. Your kids can write up the scenario too, and maybe continue on to the far reaches of Canadian Northwest Territories, or downtown Colorado Springs. If your kids enjoyed this survival activity, try creating different survival situations: Amazonian jungle, somewhere in Great Basin National Park, or the far reaches of Canadian Northwest Territories, or downtown Colorado Springs. If your kids enjoyed this survival activity, try creating different survival situations: Amazonian jungle, somewhere in Great Basin National Park, or the far reaches of Canadian Northwest Territories, or downtown Colorado Springs.

Compare your survival kit to those compiled by the American Red Cross (tiny.ppld.org/survival-kit) or ReadyKids (tiny.ppld.org/build-a-kit).

Activity: Build a Survival Kit

Preschoolers through teens can create their own survival kit, choosing their items without any research. This activity provides parents the opportunity to see what is important to their kids, and whether or not the choices would be helpful in an emergency situation. Kids think about the world differently than adults, and this activity may reveal some of these differences.

Have your kids put together a survival kit full of the items they think they would need to survive in an emergency. Younger kids will need a box, a suitcase, or a blanket to gather their survival kit items; this can be an individual project or a cooperative activity. Tweens and teens may be satisfied with a list, a photo collage, or other digital creation instead of a physical kit.

When everyone is done, use the objects selected as a “think about it” activity. Would this be helpful if the power went out? Could this be carried somewhere? See what kinds of thoughts your kids are working through and be certain to comfort them and remind them that they have grownups in their lives to look out for them.

If your kids enjoyed this survival activity, try creating different survival situations: Amazonian jungle, somewhere in Great Basin National Park, or the far reaches of Canadian Northwest Territories, or downtown Colorado Springs. Your kids can write up the scenario too, and maybe continue on to the far reaches of Canadian Northwest Territories, or downtown Colorado Springs. If your kids enjoyed this survival activity, try creating different survival situations: Amazonian jungle, somewhere in Great Basin National Park, or the far reaches of Canadian Northwest Territories, or downtown Colorado Springs. If your kids enjoyed this survival activity, try creating different survival situations: Amazonian jungle, somewhere in Great Basin National Park, or the far reaches of Canadian Northwest Territories, or downtown Colorado Springs. If your kids enjoyed this survival activity, try creating different survival situations: Amazonian jungle, somewhere in Great Basin National Park, or the far reaches of Canadian Northwest Territories, or downtown Colorado Springs.
**Winter Survival in the ERC**

It’s winter – the snow beckons while the cold sends us back inside, and summer break is months away! This is the perfect time for discovering or revisiting the Educational Resource Center (ppld.org/erc) at East Library. Accessible Monday through Saturday by reservation, the ERC has resources for a broad range of ages and interests that will engage your family in hours of discovery, exploration, and growth.

For those curious about Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), check out our popular robotics kit, Cubebots, and our Kids First Coding & Robotics STEM Experiment Kit. Aspiring engineers can explore the design process with Building Brick STEM Challenge Kits, while budding mathematicians will find that our Sumblox kit can make difficult math concepts feel more like fun and games.

Emergent and early readers can build skills with game-style tools like the sequential Touch and Read Phonics kits and games like Tiki Challenge and Sight Word Swat. In addition to items that support traditional curriculum goals, the ERC is filled with materials that encourage creativity, exploration, and discovery. Make and share music with our authentic multicultural instruments and palm pipes; foster an active imagination with our collections of mythical figures, horses, and mammals from around the world; and get those mental gears spinning with Coggy, a shape-shifting brainteaser, or Shashibo, an artistic shape-changing box based on the Rubik's Cube.

This winter, we invite you to be our guests as you explore, discover, create, and learn together as a family in the ERC's Educational Resource Center!

**PPLD Resources**

Access to the following resources is available with a valid (ppld.org) library card and pin number:

**Gale in Context: Biography**

Built on a foundation of more than 640,000 biographical entries, *Gale in Context: Biography* covers international figures from all time periods and areas of study including famous survivors of historical events. Gale in Context resources were designed with teens in mind, making this a user-friendly database for emerging researchers. tiny.ppld.org/biography

**Gale in Context: World History**

*Gale in Context: World History* reaches back to the ancient world—and forward to today’s headlines—to deliver a chronicle of the people, cultures, events, and societies that have shaped human history. Gale in Context resources were designed with teens in mind, making this a user-friendly database for emerging researchers. tiny.ppld.org/world

**Gale in Context: Elementary**

*Gale in Context: Elementary*, formerly Kids InfoCritics, gradually lets elementary school children gain comfort with research by delivering age-appropriate, reliable, curriculum-related content covering a broad range of subjects including an entire section about famous explorers. tiny.ppld.org/elementary

**Other Cool Resources**

Want to make your own survival tools? Come visit our PPLD makerspaces! Here you will find equipment such as laser engravers, sewing machines, and 3D printers. You can use our makerspaces to create all kinds of projects, such as using a 3D printer to create a survival whistle, water filter, or tent stake. You may also use a sewing machine to make your own pillows, blankets, or winter hats. What you decide to make is up to you! Find makerspaces at East, Manitou Springs, and Sand Creek libraries, as well as Library 21c. For more information, visit ppld.org/makerspaces

**Ready Kids**

Disasters happen everywhere, and this website provides tools and information to help before, during, and after. Sections are dedicated to kids (play a game or build a disaster readiness kit), teens (be a leader in your family and your community), and families (being prepared and tips for coping). ready.gov/kids

**I Survived Book Club**

Fans of Lauren Tarshis’ popular “I Survived” series will love her book club! Included are activities, videos, teaching resources, and more that will help kids dig deeper into the facts behind the events featured in her historical fiction novels, graphic novels, and nonfiction titles. tiny.ppld.org/survived-club

**History.com**

The History channel website is packed with information and fun, including videos, photos, and text for an engaging history experience. Try putting “survive” in the search bar to access an array of historical survival stories. history.com

**Make Your Own Survival Tools**

Animals, including humans, have adapted to be able to survive in their environment.

**Physical Adaptations:** Some animals have physical adaptations that help them, such as their skin/fur or hair type or coloring. Adaptations help animals eat, build nests or shelters, or stay warm. A local example is the hummingbird, which has a long, thin beak that allows it to drink nectar from deep inside of flowers.

**Behavioral Adaptations:** Some animals have learned changes in behavior that allow them to survive in their environment. For example, some animals are more active at night (nocturnal), during the day (diurnal), or maybe only at dawn or dusk (crepuscular). Another example of a behavioral change is birds flying south for the winter. This adaptation allows birds to find food and stay warm when the seasons change.

All these types of adaptations are essential for various species to survive in their natural environment. What other animals and their adaptations can you think of?