

# CLEAN UP AFTER THE STORM



Cleaning up after a hurricane can be overwhelming. Encourage children to be part of the cleanup. Giving them manageable jobs when it is safe after the storm helps children feel like they are contributing to the community in meaningful ways.

## YOUNG CHILDREN:

Keeping young children close to an adult while cleaning up keeps them safe while still encouraging participation. The following are some jobs for young children:

- Piling up small sticks from the yard or sidewalk
- Sweeping or raking leaves into piles

## SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN:

School age children still need safe boundaries. Provide boundaries for where school age children can go. Give directions for what they can and cannot clean up or tools they can use. *“You can use the broom to clear mud and water but you cannot clean up glass or sharp objects.”*

- Picking up safe debris
- Sweeping or mopping

## TEENAGE CHILDREN:

Teenagers still need clear directions but can manage more difficult tasks. Encourage teens to work together or with other adults on cleanup projects.

- Checking on elderly neighbors
- Working with others to clean up large debris
- Mopping, raking, and/or sweeping



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