

The aim of the game is to start children thinking about what they would need to do if their house was about to be flooded.

It is expected that this game will be played as a group against other teams. However it could also be played by a small group of individuals.

Objects to represent spare clothing, first aid kit, emergency food and drink, important documents and personal possessions should be placed on a table in the centre of the room before play commences.

If there are no props available, make a note of which items have been collected on a piece of paper.

When playing in a team or with individual players, the aim of the game is to move round the board as quickly as possible to collect all five items in the house and reach the finish before the other teams/players. Use just one counter per team/individual, and collect one complete flood kit per team/individual.

NB: During a severe flood event you may be asked to evacuate your property by the emergency services or appropriate authority. At all other times, evacuate the property if you need to, but only when you feel safe to do so.

THE FLOOD GAME

HOW TO PLAY

Remember - even if your home is not in a flood risk area, you might be visiting relatives or on holiday in a town that is at risk. Everyone needs to know what to do and what not to do in a flood.

The risk of flooding is increasing too, with climate change expected to cause wetter winters, sea level rise and more frequent and larger storm events. These will increase the likelihood of flash floods and coastal flooding.

If you live in a flood risk area, either near the coast or close to a river, be prepared for flooding and take precautions beforehand. Don't wait until it happens, you may not have time.

Flooding is a natural process that can happen suddenly. While the Environment Agency aims to provide advance warning and local authorities may provide assistance, the person who can do most to help is you.

If you are one of the five million people in England and Wales who live in a floodplain, your home is more likely to flood than it is to catch fire. You may have a smoke alarm, and the chances are you know what to do in a fire. But are you and your family prepared for a flood? Most people think that flooding can never happen to them.

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INTRODUCTION

the flood game

A resource to teach 7-11 year olds about flooding



DISCUSSION

Once the children have played the game leaders can reinforce the ideas with a few questions. Some ideas are listed below.

Q Summarise what items were collected for the flood kit and why.
A Food and drink, spare clothing, personal possessions, important documents, first aid kit. NB Spare drinks/water should be taken because drinking water supplies may become contaminated by storm water/sewage.

Q What else might be needed? Why?
A Wind-up or battery powered torch, a wind-up or battery powered radio to listen for weather updates, spare batteries, fully charged mobile phone, warm waterproof clothing and blankets, Wellingtons, baby food and baby care items, any medication required on a daily basis, such as inhalers. In a flood event you may find there is no electricity, and therefore no heating or light.

Q What other items are important to you that you would want to save?
A Help children to distinguish between CDs/DVDs/Play station which can be replaced and personal items which can not - photos/favourite cuddly toy/valuables etc.

Q What else might you need to do if a flood was coming?
A Help elderly and vulnerable neighbours out of danger, switch off gas, electricity and water supplies when floodwater is about to enter the home if safe to do so. DO NOT touch sources of electricity protection equipment in place, move items either upstairs or to a high place, move pets to safety, place sofas/tables on bricks. (Hint for children, points were gained/lost during the board game for forgetting/remembering to do these things.)

ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT

- Dice - one per team
 - Counters - one per team or individual player
 - Pens and paper if props are not being used
- The following items, which make up the flood kit, should be laid out on a central table:
- Food and drink - cans/bottles of water, tinned food
 - Warm clothing - socks, hats, scarf
 - Sentimental items - photo albums, books, toys, letters
 - Important documents - insurance papers, birth certificates
 - First aid kit - plasters, cotton wool, crepe bandages

Where it is not possible to move items upstairs, like in a bungalow or caravan, valuables should be placed on wardrobes or high shelves.

Q Important floodwater is dangerous. There are a number of things you should be aware of during a flood. What hazards should you look out for?
A Suggest the following hazards associated with flooding:

- manhole covers may have come off and there may be other hazards you can't see;
- standing water and mud can obscure holes and sharp objects;
- fast flowing water may sweep you off your feet - never try to swim through floodwater;
- large waves crashing on shore may contain rocks and debris which can cause injury;
- large waves crashing against piers and seawalls during flood events may sweep you off your feet - stay well clear;
- floodwater may be contaminated by sewage, chemicals and rotting food - wash your hands thoroughly if you touch it.

Q These are the Environment Agency flood warning codes? Where might you see or hear about them?
A On TV weather bulletins, radio, internet, Environment Agency publications.

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For advice and information, visit www.environment-agency.gov.uk/floodline or call Floodline on 0845 988 1188. Floodline is available 24 hours a day. Floodline is available 24 hours a day.

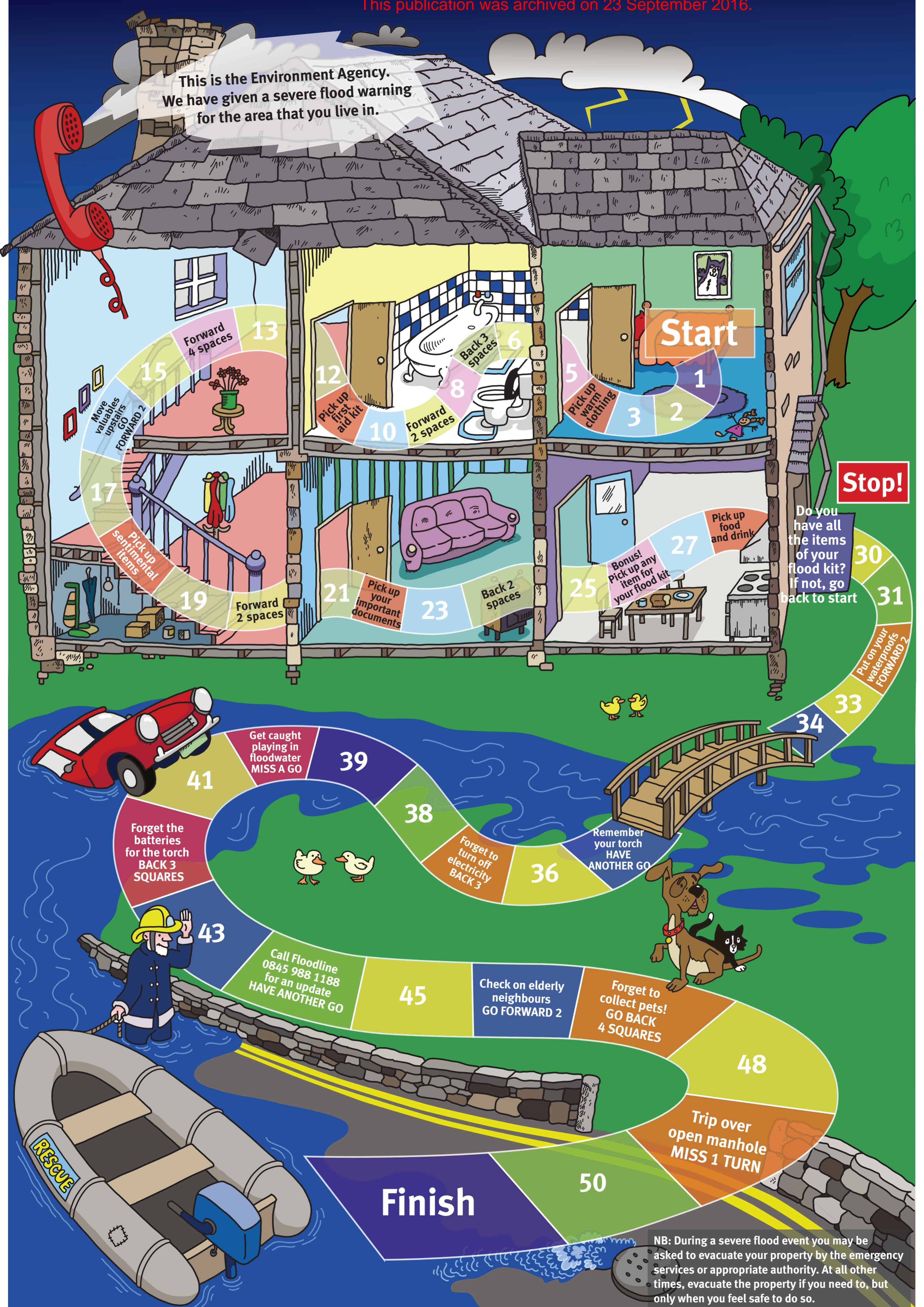
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Then call us on
08708 506 506 (Mon-Fri 8-6)
 email
enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk
 or visit our website
www.environment-agency.gov.uk

incident hotline **0800 80 70 60** (24hrs)
 floodline **0845 988 1188**

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This is the Environment Agency.
We have given a severe flood warning
for the area that you live in.



Start

Stop!

Do you have all the items of your flood kit? If not, go back to start

Finish

NB: During a severe flood event you may be asked to evacuate your property by the emergency services or appropriate authority. At all other times, evacuate the property if you need to, but only when you feel safe to do so.

- 1 Pick up warm clothing
- 2 Forward 2 spaces
- 3 Forward 2 spaces
- 4 Forward 2 spaces
- 5 Pick up first aid kit
- 6 Back 3 spaces
- 7 Forward 2 spaces
- 8 Forward 2 spaces
- 9 Forward 2 spaces
- 10 Forward 2 spaces
- 11 Forward 2 spaces
- 12 Forward 2 spaces
- 13 Forward 4 spaces
- 14 Forward 2 spaces
- 15 Move valuables upstairs GO FORWARD 2
- 16 Forward 2 spaces
- 17 Pick up sentimental items
- 18 Forward 2 spaces
- 19 Forward 2 spaces
- 20 Forward 2 spaces
- 21 Pick up your important documents
- 22 Forward 2 spaces
- 23 Back 2 spaces
- 24 Forward 2 spaces
- 25 Bonus! Pick up any item for your flood kit
- 26 Forward 2 spaces
- 27 Pick up food and drink
- 28 Forward 2 spaces
- 29 Forward 2 spaces
- 30 Put on your waterproofs FORWARD 2
- 31 Forward 2 spaces
- 32 Forward 2 spaces
- 33 Forward 2 spaces
- 34 Forward 2 spaces
- 35 Forward 2 spaces
- 36 Remember your torch HAVE ANOTHER GO
- 37 Forward 2 spaces
- 38 Forget to turn off electricity BACK 3
- 39 Get caught playing in floodwater MISS A GO
- 40 Forward 2 spaces
- 41 Forget the batteries for the torch BACK 3 SQUARES
- 42 Forward 2 spaces
- 43 Call Floodline 0845 988 1188 for an update HAVE ANOTHER GO
- 44 Forward 2 spaces
- 45 Check on elderly neighbours GO FORWARD 2
- 46 Forward 2 spaces
- 47 Forget to collect pets! GO BACK 4 SQUARES
- 48 Trip over open manhole MISS 1 TURN
- 49 Forward 2 spaces
- 50 Forward 2 spaces