Planning for Emergencies Away From Your Program

Use this reflection activity to think about how you would respond to problems on trips away from the home. Print the activity. Answer the questions. Talk about your responses with your trainer, coach or family child care administrator.

Your family child care home is located within a neighborhood. Several of the children in your care live in this neighborhood and their families walk them to and from the program. Jerusha, a preschool child, came to your home very upset this morning and has not cheered up. As part of your activity plan, you are going on a walk around the block this morning. You and the children walk around the block to look at the nests birds have built in the trees. The children are so excited; you take turns lifting children to see into the nest. You take a headcount before beginning to walk again, but your count is one child short. You see Jerusha is no longer with the group. You suspect Jerusha has started walking toward her house (or where she thinks her house is).

1. How do you respond to Jerusha's disappearance?

2. What is your plan for notifying the authorities that a child is missing?

3. How do you maintain ratio and safely escort the rest of the children back to your home?

4. What is your plan for notifying parents?

5. What can you do in the future to prevent such incidents?

6. What other concerns do you have?
Your family child care program is on a field trip to a local nature preserve. Suddenly, Sheridan screams out and begins to cry. When you ask what's wrong, he says a bee stung him. His face begins to swell.

1. If you know Sheridan has a health care plan, what do you do?

2. If Sheridan does not have a health care plan, what do you do?