

Jessica:

The other day while scrolling social media, I came across a post from someone from Ohio that was looking for help to know how to wash her breast pump. She had been told by authorities not to use her water for a week as it had been contaminated due to the hazardous train wreck. This is the kind of situation you never think you would find yourself in, but totally could! Wasn't it a year or two ago that the power grids in Texas went out in the middle of winter leaving so many without heat or water? After the Texas disaster a homesteader on a different social media page had shared her story. In it she explained that her grandmother always told her that an empty jar takes up the same amount of room as a full jar. She shared how she always puts water in her mason jars/ jugs just in case. After the power went off she had plenty of water stored in her home for her family. Neighbors who knew she practiced doing this often teased her, but guess who came to her door when everyone in the town was out of water?

There's no need to go to the store and buy massive amounts of "fresh spring water". I would actually caution against this as we've had those bottles get pinhole leaks that drenched the bottom of our pantry without our knowledge. Do, however take your unused jars and/or emptied juice jugs, fill them up with your tap or well water for an emergency situation. I plan to do this now and will refill our water filter with them to keep in the habit and to keep the water fresher. I've been taking good thick juice jugs and filling them part of the way with filtered water, and then putting them in my freezer to help keep our freezer running more efficient and to protect our frozen items incase of a short power outage. I'm able to grab one if we are going on a picnic or a trip as a dual purpose ice block and drinking water. Our stored water will also be helpful if we were to have a hurricane. I promise you don't want to go to the store looking for water before or after a hurricane.

Charlie:

If you know me then you know that I have many interests. Recently I have been on a board game kick. Recently I acquired a game system called Pyramid Arcade by Looney Labs. The game (actually a collection of 22+ games) uses small plastic pyramids. This tactile play is great for children developing fine motor skills. The pyramids also have pips on them which allow you to use them to count your points. I find it to be amazing that simple games have great teaching moments built in that allow your kids to learn even while having fun.

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