

# Lesson Plan for “Fire Safety Starts with You!”

## Children’s Fire Prevention Week Program - 2018

Key Points	Resources and Notes
<p>Students can be a powerful influence on family and loved ones by taking home fire safety messages learned at school.</p> <p>A great tool for helping them learn about fire safety is The “<i>Fire Safety Starts With You!</i>” activity booklet. It is intended to be discussed in class and then taken home to be shared with family members.</p> <p>This lesson focuses on helping students and their families effectively learn about three basic but essential steps (Look, Listen, Learn) to reduce the likelihood of having a fire and understanding working smoke alarms save lives and how to prepare a home fire escape plan.</p> <p>“Look” for places fire could start. Look around your home to identify potential fire hazards and take care of them.</p> <p>“Listen” for the sound of the smoke alarm. You could have only minutes to escape safely once the smoke alarm sounds. Go to the outside meeting place, which should be a safe distance from the home and where everyone should know to meet.</p> <p>“Learn” two ways out of every room – a door, a window or the stairs and don’t forget to practice.</p> <p>The lesson is divided into specific objectives focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• learning about smoke alarms;</li><li>• Home Safety Checklists including Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms, Electrical and Appliances, Heating, and Candles and Smoking;</li><li>• a “look for places fire could start” activity;</li><li>• a “spot the hazards” activity that tests children’s fire safety knowledge, and;</li><li>• a colouring page that children can enjoy doing while learning smoke alarm safety.</li></ul>	<p><b>“Fire Safety Starts With You!”</b> activity booklet.</p>

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<p>Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• While preparing to deliver this lesson it may be helpful to review the Fire Prevention Week Campaign information posted at <a href="http://www.firepreventionweek.org">www.firepreventionweek.org</a> on the National Fire Protection Association website. The information reinforces why everyone needs to have a working smoke alarm, an escape plan, places fire could start, introducing the realities of fire and the importance of fire prevention.</li></ul> <p>During Fire Prevention Week (October 7-13, 2018) distribute one “<i>Fire Safety Starts with You!</i>” activity booklet to each student in your class. The 2018 Fire Prevention Week theme is “Look. Listen. Learn. Be aware. Fire can happen anywhere”. This year’s program focuses on helping students and their families learn about three basic but essential steps to take to reduce the likelihood of having a fire and that working smoke alarms save lives, and how to prepare a home fire escape plan.</p> <p>The activity booklet addresses possible hazards in the home, places fire can start, smoke alarm testing, and home safety checklists.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There are several different topics covered in the activity booklet. It is recommended that you discuss one topic per day during Fire Prevention Week. To reinforce learning review each topic from the previous day before proceeding to the next topic. Practicing where possible is important because it increases the likelihood that people will make the safest choices during an actual emergency.</li><li>• Discuss the meaning of the word “prevention”. Introduce the idea that many home fires can be prevented and that students have the power to help make their home a safer place.</li></ul> <p>Definition of prevention from the Oxford Dictionary - the action of stopping something from happening or arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use the “<i>Fire Safety Starts with You!</i>” activity booklet as a guide.</li></ul>	

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<p>#1 – Quiz Time - Learning about fire safety including smoke alarms</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Children should be taught to identify the sound of a working smoke alarm. Press the test button on a smoke alarm as a demonstration. Warn them first.</li> <li>2. What is your smoke alarm telling you if it “chirps”? That means the battery is low and a new battery needs to be installed. Demonstrate the sound with a low battery and then show how the battery is changed (which is something a parent or adult would do) then test the alarm to show that it is working. Testing the battery is something that we do “Once a Month”!</li> <li>3. Ask students if they know anyone who has experienced a home fire and where or how the fire started. Emphasize that in addition to cooking, electrical, heating appliances and smoking materials are also major causes of home fires.</li> </ol> <p>#2 – Fire Hazards Activity</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ask students to complete the Inside and Outside – Fire Safety Starts with You seven fire hazards activity. Have them identify the hazards and then discuss each hazard:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Damaged cord on space heater</li> <li>b) Candle is left unattended</li> <li>c) Smoke alarm not installed</li> <li>d) Cigarette in planter</li> <li>e) Pot is left unattended on the stove</li> <li>f) Gas is too close to an ignition source</li> <li>g) Fire not in an approved fire pit</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p>Have a smoke alarm to demonstrate the sound</p> <p>Visit:  <a href="http://www.nfpa.org/public-education/campaigns/fire-prevention-week/teaching-fpw">http://www.nfpa.org/public-education/campaigns/fire-prevention-week/teaching-fpw</a> to sing and dance along with SteveSongs as Rosealie and her little brother learn about smoke alarms</p> <p><b>“Fire Safety Starts With You!”</b> activity booklet - Fire Hazards Activity!</p>

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<p>#3 Look for Places Fire Can Start Activity</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Look for Places Fire Can Start activity in the “<i>Fire Safety Starts with You!</i>” activity booklet.</li> <li>2. Explain that this activity was developed to have them think about different places that a fire could start.</li> </ol> <p>Unattended cooking is the <u>number one</u> cause of home fires. The other examples definitely are places fire could start and can be discussed as a class.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Heating Equipment – a space heater left unattended or placed too close to items that can burn.</li> <li>b) Careless Smoking - never extinguish smoking materials in a planter. There may be hazardous or combustible products in the soil and a fire could start from these products (fertilizer, peat moss).</li> <li>c) Electrical Equipment - a toaster with a damaged cord.</li> <li>d) Candles - candles should never be left burning in a room where no one is present. They must always be in a safe holder so the wax and flame stay contained.</li> <li>e) Cooking appliances - never leave something on the stove and walk away or leave the room. A fire could start grow. Once in flames, you must leave the home and call for help.</li> </ol>	<p>“Fire Safety Starts With You!” activity booklet.</p> <p>Look for places fire can start.</p>

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<p># 4 Home Safety Checklist:</p> <p>a) Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Alarms</p> <p>Explain the importance of having working smoke alarms and where they should be located (on each level of your home and outside each sleeping area). Also, tell a responsible adult that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Once a month – test your smoke alarms using the test button once a month. If the smoke alarm doesn’t make a sound, replace the battery. If it still doesn’t work, replace the smoke alarm.</li><li>- Change the battery in your smoke alarm according to manufacturer’s instructions or when you hear the low battery alarm.</li><li>- Smoke alarms should be replaced every 10 years.</li><li>- Know how old all the smoke alarms are in your home. To find out how old a smoke alarm is, look at the date of manufacture on the back of the alarm. The alarm should be replaced 10 years from that date.</li></ul> <p>b) Electrical and Appliances</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Extension cords must be in good condition. If there is a break or crack in the cord they should be replaced not repaired with tape.</li><li>- Never place a rug over an extension cord. The cord could overheat and start a fire.</li><li>- Always clean the dryer vent before or after each load. Too much lint may heat when the dryer is running and start a fire.</li><li>- Always keep the cooking area clean. Spilled food left on or near a burner can start fire. Also, never leave cooking unattended.</li></ul>	<p>“Fire Safety Starts With You!” activity booklet.</p> <p>Review the Home Safety Checklists on each side of the booklet.</p>

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<p>c) Heating</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Wood stoves and fireplaces should always have a screen. Never poke at a fire and always have an adult start and look after the fire.</li><li>- Keep portable heaters away from things that can catch fire including blankets, furniture and area rugs.</li></ul> <p>d) Candles and Smoking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- If you find lighters or matches give them to an adult.</li><li>- All candles should be in a fire-safe holder and never left in a room unattended.</li></ul> <p>#5 Alarm Reminders</p> <p>a) Review smoke alarm safety:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Test the battery once a month</li><li>- Change the battery once a year</li><li>- Replace the smoke alarm every 10 years</li></ul> <p>b) Cut out and place the Alarm Reminder on the fridge.</p> <p>#6 Colouring Page</p> <p>a) Children can be creative and may choose colours of their room at home.</p> <p>b) Review smoke alarm safety.</p> <p>c) Feature the colouring page on a bulliten board in the classroom. This will be a continual reminder of the Fire Safety Starts With Booklet and the smoke alarm safety message.</p>	

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<p><b>Extension Activities</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Invite a firefighter into the classroom to review completed booklets and give tips on fire safe.</li><li>2. Have a safety poster contest and judge the students’ illustrations. Be sure to recognize each child’s effort.</li><li>3. Have students bring in newspaper articles or TV stories about house fires. Discuss details and talk about how the fire may have been prevented.</li><li>4. Practice the school escape plan. Use the signs or a sheet to indicate smoke. Students will practice using a second way out or getting low and going under the smoke to their exit.</li><li>5. Direct students to <a href="http://www.sparky.org/">http://www.sparky.org/</a> where they can find out more information about fire safety and play interactive games, complete activities and watch videos with Sparky.</li></ol>	<p><b>Have a “Stop, Drop and Roll” demonstration.</b></p>

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<p><b>Conclusion</b></p> <p>Review the “Fire Safety Starts With You!” activity booklet and ask students if they changed any answers and why.</p> <p>Emphasize <b>“Look. Listen. Learn. Be aware. Fire can happen anywhere”</b>.</p> <p>Summarize the lessons by making a list of safety tips for kids.</p> <p>Review and discuss the family escape plan and review the three behaviors necessary to ensure smoke alarms can serve as life-saving devices.</p> <p>Develop a home fire escape plan today. It could save your life! Everyone must know what to do and where to go when the smoke alarm sounds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Once a month – test your smoke alarms using the test button. If the smoke alarm doesn’t make a sound replace the battery. If it still doesn’t work replace the smoke alarm.</li> <li>b) Change the battery in your smoke alarm according to manufacturer’s instructions or when you hear the low battery alarm.</li> <li>c) Replace the smoke alarm with a new one every ten years. Make sure you know how old all the smoke alarms are in your home. To find out how old a smoke alarm is, look at the date of manufacture on the back of the alarm; the alarm should be replaced 10 years from that date.</li> </ul> <p>Now it’s time to include the parents/guardians! Ask students to take their activity booklet home to complete with their parents/guardians so they can learn to be fire safe too!</p>	<p><b>“Fire Safety Starts With You!”</b> activity booklet.</p> <p>Visit NFPA for information on an escape plan and an escape grid</p> <p><a href="https://www.nfpa.org/escapeplan">https://www.nfpa.org/escapeplan</a></p>