

Fire Safety Lesson Plans for Fire Crews



Topics Covered in this Lesson:

- Identify hot things that can burn and know how to cool a burn.
- What smoke alarms sound like and why they are important.
- What to do when the smoke alarms sound.
- Matches and lighters are for adults.
- What to do if your clothes catch on fire - stop, drop and roll.

Audience:

- Children in junior and senior kindergarten.

Objectives:

- Students identify hot things that burn, know to avoid touching them and know how to cool a burn.
- Students understand the importance of smoke alarms, what they sound like and what to do when they sound in an emergency.
- Students know to tell an adult if they find matches or lighters.
- Students know how to stop, drop and roll.

Materials:

- smoke alarm; HOT and NOT HOT pictures; matches and lighter; home fire escape planning grid; *Fire Safety in High-Rise Buildings* information sheet.

Introduction: (1 minute)

- Introduce yourself and briefly tell the students what you do at the fire department.
- Tell the students you will be talking about some very important fire safety topics that will help keep them and their families safe from fire.

Topic #1: What are Smoke Alarms (5 minutes)

- Hold up the smoke alarm.
- Ask the students if they know what it is and what it does.
- Tell the students that if there is a fire in their home, there will be smoke. Tell them that the smoke alarm will go off so that everyone in the home knows there is a fire.
- Tell the students that it is very important that everyone in the home knows about a fire as soon as possible because fire and smoke spread very fast and are very dangerous. So everyone in the home needs to know that there is a fire, and know what to do, so they can escape safely.

Topic #2: The Sound Smoke Alarms Make and Home Fire Escape Planning (5-7 minutes)

- Ask the students if they know what a smoke alarm sounds like.
- Tell them that you are going to make the smoke alarm go off by pressing the test button.
- Tell the students that the sound will be very loud. Make sure they are prepared for the loud sound (for example, tell them they can cover their ears with their hands).
- Press the test button on the smoke alarm so the students hear the sound the alarm makes.
- Ask the students if they know what to do if the smoke alarms go off in their home.





- Tell the kids that if the smoke alarms sound in an emergency, everyone in their home needs to get out as quickly as possible. *(If there are kids who live in apartment or condo buildings, they will need to follow the fire safety procedures for their building. Tell those kids to talk to their parents/caregivers about what to do if their building's fire alarm system goes off. Parents of these kids should talk to their building superintendent to find out the fire safety procedures if there is a fire in their building.)*
- Explain to the students that their family should have a home fire escape plan so that everyone in their home knows how to escape if the smoke alarms go off.
- Tell the students that the plan should have two ways out of each room, if possible. The first way out would likely be the door, the second could be a window or another door.
- Tell the students that everyone should meet outside the home at a place that is a safe distance from the fire and that everyone knows/can find easily.
- Ask the students to give you a few examples of a good meeting place outside their home (such as a tree or a street light).
- Tell the students that in a fire, smoke starts at the ceiling and comes down towards the floor. So if they discover smoke when trying to escape, they should get low and go under the smoke where the air is fresher.
- Tell the students that once they are out, they must stay out of a burning building. No one should EVER re-enter a burning building.
- Tell the students you will be giving them a home fire escape planning sheet at the end of the lesson so they can take it home and so their parents/caretakers can develop and practice an escape plan with everyone in the home.

Topic #3: Cool a Burn (5-7 minutes)

- Explain that hot things can hurt and that a grown-up must always be present when the students are around hot things.

What's HOT and What's NOT

- Display the pictures provided illustrating things that are HOT and things that are NOT HOT. The HOT pictures include an iron, stove, barbecue and a birthday cake with lit candles. NOT HOT pictures include an apple, a doll, a soccer ball and crayons. Ask the children to identify which pictures are HOT and which are NOT HOT.
- Explain that hot things can hurt and that a grown-up must always be present when the students are around hot things.
- Tell the students that if they get burned from something hot they should always tell a grown-up.
- Tell them that the burn should be cooled immediately with cool water. Tell them that cool water should run gently over the burned area for approximately 3 to 5 minutes. This helps stop the skin from burning more and helps to stop the hurt.

Cool a Burn Activity

- If there is access to a water tap, show the students the proper procedure for cooling a burn.

Topic #4: STOP, DROP and ROLL (3-5 minutes)

- Ask the students if they know what to do if their clothes start on fire.
- Tell the students that the safest thing to do if their clothes catch on fire is to STOP what they are doing, DROP to the ground, and ROLL over back and forth covering their face and mouth with their hands. This is the quickest way to smother the flames and lessen the burn injuries.
- Ask for a volunteer to demonstrate how to STOP, DROP and ROLL.





Topic #5: Matches and Lighters (3-5 minutes)

- Hold up the matches and lighter.
- Ask the students if they know what they are.
- Ask the students if they know what they do.
- Tell the students they make fire that can burn things. That means they can be very dangerous if used improperly or unsafely.
- Tell the students that if they ever find matches or lighters in their home, on the playground, or anywhere, they should not touch them and they should tell an ADULT – not an older brother, older sister or friend - immediately.

Wrap-up: (5 minutes)

- Tell the students that they have learned some very important fire safety lessons today.
- Tell the students that you need their help. You need them to help keep their family at home safe from fire.
- Ask the students to tell their parents/caregivers to test their smoke alarms at home that night to make sure they are working.
- Ask the students to take the home fire escape planning grid home and make their parents/caregivers develop and practice an escape plan that night. This will help keep everyone safe from fire.
- If students live in an apartment or condo building, ask them to take home the *Fire Safety in High-Rise Buildings* information sheet and share it with everyone in their home.
- Thank the students for helping to keep their families safe from fire.

Lesson Options:

After the lesson, consider showing the students bunker gear or providing a tour of a truck to get them excited about fire safety.

