Protect your family from fire

Prevention Month

NEWSPAPERS IN EDUCATION
THE OKLAHOMAN

FM Global

Commemorating a conflagration

Fire Prevention Week was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire, the tragic 1871 conflagration that killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures and burned more than 2,000 acres. The fire began on October 8, but continued into and did most of its damage on October 9, 1871.

According to popular legend, the fire broke out after a cow - belonging to Mrs. Catherine O'Leary - kicked over a lamp, setting first the barn, then the whole city on fire. Chances are you've heard some version of this story yourself; people have been blaming the Great Chicago Fire on the cow and Mrs. O'Leary, for more than 130 years. But recent research by Chicago historian Robert Cromie has helped to debunk this version of events.

The 'Moo' myth

Like any good story, the 'case of the cow' has some truth to it. The great fire almost certainly started near the barn where Mrs. O'Leary kept her five milking cows. But there is no proof that O'Leary was in the barn when the fire broke out - or that a jumpy cow sparked the blaze. Mrs. O'Leary herself swore that she'd been in bed early that night, and that the cows were also tucked in for the evening.

But if a cow wasn't to blame for the huge fire, what was? Over the years, journalists and historians have offered plenty of theories. Some blamed the blaze on a couple of neighborhood boys who were near the barn sneaking cigarettes. Others believed that a neighbor of the O'Leary's may have started the fire. Some people have speculated that a fiery meteorite may have fallen to earth on October 8, starting several fires that day - in Michigan and Wisconsin, as well as in Chicago.

The biggest blaze that week

While the Great Chicago Fire was the best-known blaze to start during this fiery two-day stretch, it wasn't the biggest. That distinction goes to the Peshtigo Fire, the most devastating forest fire in American history. The fire, which also occurred on October 8th, 1871, and roared through Northeast Wisconsin, burning down 16 towns, killing 1,152 people, and scorching 1.2 million acres before it ended.

Historical accounts of the fire say that the blaze began when several railroad workers clearing land for tracks unintentionally started a brush fire. Before long, the fast-moving flames were whipping through the area 'like a tornado,' some survivors said. It was the small town of Peshtigo, Wisconsin that suffered the worst damage. Within an hour, the entire town had been destroyed.

Eight decades of fire prevention

Those who survived the Chicago and Peshtigo fires never forgot what they'd been through; both blazes produced countless tales of bravery and heroism. But the fires also changed the way that firefighters and public officials thought about fire safety. On the 40th anniversary of the Great Chicago Fire, the Fire Marshals Association of North America (today known as the International Fire Marshals Association), decided that the anniversary of the Great Chicago Fire should henceforth be observed not with festivities, but in a way that would keep the public informed about the importance of fire prevention. The commemoration grew incrementally official over the years.

In 1920, President Woodrow Wilson issued the first National Fire Prevention Day proclamation, and since 1922, Fire Prevention Week has been observed on the Sunday through Saturday period in which October 9 falls. According to the National Archives and Records Administration's Library Information Center, Fire Prevention Week is the longest running public health and safety observance on record. The President of the United States has signed a proclamation proclaiming a national observance during that week every year since 1925.

Fire Safety

Sprinkler smarts

fire timeline

seconds, minutes

0:03:41
Temperature reaches 1400F

0:10:00 - and beyond
Fire Extinguished

0:01:04
Fire reaches 135-165F, home fire sprinkler activates & controls or extinguishes fire

0:02:00 - 0:03:00
Fire reported, smoke alarm melts

0:02:30
Temperature level over 400F

0:04:00 - 0:09:00
Firefighter respond. Flames now visable from exterior of house. First evidence of fire from outside

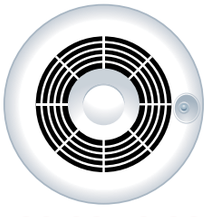
0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10

0:03:50
Upstairs filled with smoke. Second exit is only way out.

0:01:35
Smoke layer descends rapidly, temperature over 109F

0:09:00 - 0:10:00
Fire equipment setup

0:03:03
FLASHOVER! (unsurvivable) in as little as three minutes



0:00:00 - 0:00:30
Fire ignites, Smoke alarm activates

PROVIDED BY Home Fire Sprinkler COALITION Protect What You Value Most

Let's have some fun while learning about Fire Safety!

For curriculum on Fire Safety visit:
https://nie.newsok.com/educators/curriculum/fire-prevention-2016/

ATTENTION STUDENTS:

Complete any of the below activities and be entered to win a $250.00 VISA Gift Card (Group submissions are welcomed, and all participants will be asked to share the prize money)! PLUS, if you win we will send your Teacher a $500.00 VISA Gift Card! Students are allowed one entry into each of the below contests. We hope you decide to participate in ALL of them! ALL ENTRIES ARE DUE BY DECEMBER 28TH, 2016.

You can mail your entries to:

Newspapers in Education P.O. Box 25125Oklahoma City, OK 73125-0125

Or upload them by visiting:

https://nie.newsok.com/educators/curriculum/fire-prevention-2016/

CREATE A COMIC WITH A MESSAGE!

Think about fire safety. What are some other things you can share with your friends and family to help ensure they are being safe and doing their part to prevent fires? Create a fire safety cartoon comic that you can share with your friends.

WRITE YOUR OWN BREAKING NEWS STORY!

Write a news story using the following headline: ***Family escapes from house fire***. To successfully write your news story you will need to identify the WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN and WHY of the event. Visit The Oklahoman's archives at http://nieonline.com/theoklahoman/archive.cfm. Using your teacher's login you can visit old articles about other house fires to get ideas on how to write your own news story.

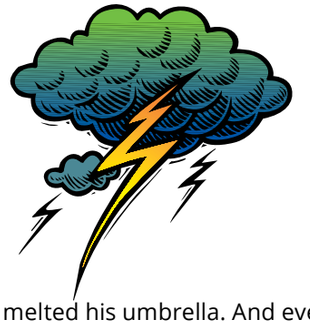
SEND US A VIDEO!

Let's come up with some creative ways to remember the saying STOP, DROP & ROLL. Break into groups, or as a class, work together to come up with a song! Be creative and make dance moves that will help you to remember what you need to do if your clothing were ever to catch on fire. We want to see you performing your song! Create a video of your group performing your STOP, DROP & ROLL song. Use costumes, instruments and your vocal chords to go all out! **Everyone that participates in the Video contest will be entered to win the Visa Gift Cards, but we will also **SELECT THE BEST VIDEO SUBMISSION TO BE FEATURED ON NEWSOK! *AND* IF YOUR VIDEO WINS, YOUR CLASS GETS A PIZZA PARTY!**

Science SAFETY Mysteries

Investigate how to prevent electrical and natural gas accidents

POWER Mystery



Clues
A bright light; a tingly, sore arm; a melted umbrella

A striking situation
Ten-year-old Sam went out to get the mail. He had just closed his umbrella when he saw a bright light, felt warm all over and got shaky. Sam's arm was tingly, sore and weak. What do you think happened?

Investigation report
Sam was struck by lightning. Later he found out that the lightning had melted his umbrella. And even worse, the lightning strike resulted in neNe damage in his arm, and Sam needed physical therapy to get it working properly again. Luckily, there wasn't a fire and Sam's okay.

Safety prevention techniques

- ✓ If you hear thunder or see lightning, stay inside or remain in your hard top car.
- ✓ Lightning travels through wires and pipes, so stay away from electric appliances, phones, sinks and tubs during lightning storms.
- ✓ Keep away from trees and anything metal because lightning, a powerful form of static electricity, will travel through conductors and take the quickest path to the ground .
- ✓ Don't go in water—lakes, rivers or pools. Water is a conductor of electricity.
- ✓ Avoid wide-open outdoor areas. If in the open, squat or kneel; don't lie down.

stinky Mystery

Clues
Smell of rotten eggs; smoke and fire; a burnt house

An urgent escape
A family woke to the smell of smoke coming from their kitchen downstairs. Two kids were able to flee the burning house, but the fire forced the parents and seven-year-old child to the third floor. They were eventually saved by firefighters, but their home was destroyed. What do you think happened?

Investigation report
Upon investigation, one of the kids claimed to have smelled rotten eggs earlier that evening. Firefighters later discovered that the seven-year-old had played with knobs on the natural gas stove, which led to a fire. The house was not equipped with working smoke detectors.

Safety prevention techniques

- ✓ Learn to recognize a natural gas leak. If you smell a rotten-egg odor in your home, tell an adult immediately. If no adult is present, get out of the house immediately.
- ✓ From a trusted neighbor's home, call the fire departemnt right away!
- ✓ Don't use any electrical devices-a telephone or even a light switch -inside the home if you smell natural gas; they could spark a fire.
- ✓ Don't cook without a parent or guardian present. And don't play with the natural gas range controls.
- ✓ Make sure your home is equipped with working smoke detectors. Check their batteries at least annually.

shocking Mystery

Clues
Singed area around outlet; burned fingertips; tingly arm; non-working night light

Dangerous decision
Jessica forgot to take off her necklace before getting into bed. Too tired to get up, she took off the metal necklace, leaned out of bed and hung it on her night light that was plugged into the outlet. In a split second, she saw a flash of yellow and felt a hot, tingly feeling in her hand and arm. The night light went out, but fortunately no fire started. What do you think happened?

Investigation report
Jessica caused a short circuit, or a new path for electricity to flow in an unintended way. This can happen when two bare wires, or in this case a necklace, in a circuit touch each other. Due to the large amount of current that started to flow in the short circuit, a lot of heat was generated anc the area around the outlet got singed and turned black.
Additionally, the circuit breaker detected the excessive amount of current flow from the short circuit, and turned off the power to the night light by opening the circuit. Jessica received an electrical shock and was burned on her fingertips. She was treated for burns at a local hospital.

Safety prevention techniques

- ✓ Remember that metal is a conductor of electricity, and if you are touching metal, you could provide electricity a path to the ground and receive a shock, or worse.
- ✓ Outlets are only for plugs. Do not stick metal or any other objects into an outlet.
- ✓ Do not play with any electrical equipment -transformers (green metal boxes outside}, poles or power lines. You could get seriously hurt .
- ✓ If you see downed wires, do not go closer to investigate. Electricity could be flowing out from the wire and in the ground. Even without touching the wire, you could get electrocuted.

DISNEY EDUCATIONAL PRODUCTIONS

Safety Smart® Science with Bill Nye the Science Guy: FIRE

True or False? Circle T or F

1.	A metal pan is not a good conductor of heat.	**T**	**F**
2.	The shape of a candle flame in space is a teardrop.	**T**	**F**
3.	Liquid and solid fuel must become a gas in order to burn.	**T**	**F**
4.	Heat rises.	**T**	**F**
5.	A fire escape plan should identify two exits for every room.	**T**	**F**
6.	Smoke stays low.	**T**	**F**
7.	Heat, fuel, and oxygen are three parts of the fire triangle.	**T**	**F**

Multiple Choice: Circle the letter of the best answer

8. An example of radiated heat is:
- **a.** heating a hot dog on a frying pan
- **b.** the sun's rays reaching our skin
- **c.** toasting marshmallows over a fire
- **d.** cooking a hot dog in boiling water

9. Smoke fills a room:
- **a.** Bottom up
- **b.** Evenly
- **c.** Top down
- **d.** Left to right

10. Which of the following demonstrates a way to put out a fire?
- **a.** pouring water over it
- **b.** spreading out the fuel
- **c.** removing the oxygen
- **d.** all of the above

Safety Smart Science
With Bill Nye the Science Guy®: Fire
Now Available on DVD
Visit *SafetySmartDVD.com* for more information.

ADDITIONAL CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

FIRE HAZARDS!
Look through the print replica for ads or photos of products that could be potential fire hazards. Discuss the safety rules related to each item.

GET REAL!
Have students search through the print replica for articles related to fires or home safety. Discuss the events, causes and consequences.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK SPECIAL EVENTS
Many local fire departments plan events for the community in addition to visiting schools to present fire safety programs. For more information, contact your local fire department.

Safety Smart is an initiative aimed at improving the awareness and understanding of children ages 4-14 in safety and in managing themselves and their surroundings as safely as possible—by conscious action, not chance. Toward that end, Underwriters Laboratories, UL, produces multimedia public service announcements; arranges for Safety Ambassadors' visits for children to learn from professional safety experts; hosts field trips to its laboratories, where students see safety engineers at work and participate in their own hands-on safety experiments; regularly takes a public stance on emerging safety issues, especially regarding products that may pose a risk to consumers; and supports the development of its youth safety education programs. Through its efforts, Safety Smart cultivates safety awareness, provides opportunities for children to learn and practice safe behaviors, and helps children learn to make more informed safety choices today and in the future.

Do your part!
Be **Safety Smart!**

For more Safety Smart Science visit ULSafetySmart.com.

Answer Key: 1. F, 2. F, 3. T, 4. T, 5. T, 6. F, 7. T, 8. b, 9. c, 10. d

Fire Safety
at home

We're searching for
SAFETY STARS

Your role is to put the spotlight on fire hazards so your family can correct them and make your home safe.

Fire strikes more than a million times a year in the United States. That's a big number, but people never expect a fire to happen to them. What's really sad is that most fires could have been prevented by following common sense, safety steps.

Today your family is counting on you to do some careful checking throughout your home.You also will need to plan escape routes and practice fire drills at your house.

PART 1
Prepare

Preparation is an important first step for anything you plan to do. For fire safety, this means making sure that everyone knows important information like addresses and telephone numbers.

This information should be kept in a convenient location, perhaps on your refrigerator or on a bulletin board near a telephone, so it can be found immediately. This information is especially important for younger children.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1) The number we should call in case of a fire is

_____.

Remember: Get out first, then report the fire from a safe location.

Make sure young children understand not to use 911 unless a real emergency exists — accidental or false 911 calls tie up critical personnel and resources; it is against the law to make a false 911 phone call.

2) Write down the following information on a sheet of paper. Keep this list where you can find it easily:

- Local fire department phone number
- Local police department phone number
- Parent(s)' or guardian(s)' cell phone number(s)
- Parent(s)' or guardian(s)' work number(s)
- Your street address
- The city you live in

3) Check the front of your house — are the address numbers easily visible from the street in case a firefighter needs to find your home?

If the numbers are not clear, how would you describe your home to make it easy for emergency personnel to find? (Color, landmarks, or any other unique features can all help fire personnel identify your house.)

SMOKE ALARMS

Smoke alarms are a critical first line of defense from fires. Smoke alarms on living levels should be placed in a central location such as a hallway.

Follow these steps to ensure that your smoke alarms are in place and operating properly.

4) COUNT SMOKE ALARMS

There are _____ smoke alarms in our home.

(There should be AT LEAST ONE on EVERY LEVEL of your home including the basement, where a fire may start unnoticed.)

5) TEST SMOKE ALARMS MONTHLY

Push the test button on each alarm to ensure it is working properly. Familiarize yourself with how the alarm sounds, so if you hear a smoke alarm, you'll know what to do.

6) CLEAN THE SMOKE ALARMS

Open your alarms and gently vacuum or clean an dust or other contaminant's that could block the vents and prevent the alarm from working.

7) SET UP A MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

If your family doesn't have a regular maintenance schedule for the smoke alarms, now is the time to create one. Start by replacing all smoke alarm batteries and replace them again within 12 months. Buy new smoke alarms every 10 years.

SAFETY STAR

SAFETY TAKES CENTER STAGE

Remind the adults in your house to never use smoking materials while in bed.

PART 2

Prevent

HERE'S YOUR CUE – SHOW YOUR SKILLS!

Many fires are caused by carelessness or by not noticing what could turn into a dangerous situation. These fires can be prevented with education, common sense and planning.

CHECK IT OUT:

Go on a fire safety check around your home, looking for fire risk situations. Once you complete your checklist, find any NO boxes that you checked These risks need to be fixed immediately.

Look for these danger signs as you examine the rooms in your home:

ALL ROOMS

Electrical Cords & Wires

Examine the cords on your electrical appliances like the television set, lamps, computer equipment, microwave oven and other appliances.

YES	NO	
O	O	Are all wires and cords in good repair?
O	O	Are wires and cords kept out from beneath furniture or carpets?
O	O	Are you sure there are no wires attached to walls with staples or tacks that can damage the insulation?
O	O	Are outlets and extension cords carrying the proper electrical load as indicated on their rating labels? Be sure that you do not have more than one item plugged into each individual outlet in your home – all it takes is one spark from an over loaded outlet to start a fire.

Appliances

YES	NO	
O	O	Are electrical appliances like televisions, stereos and computer equipment properly ventilated to avoid overheating?

Heating Devices

YES	NO	
O	O	Are space heaters or other heating devices UL listed and always kept at least 3 feet away from anything?
O	O	Are heating devices placed on a flat, level floor to avoid tipping over?
O	O	Do you turn off portable heaters in bed rooms before going to sleep?
O	O	Is the furnace kept in good repair withfilters replaced regularly?
O	O	Are heating vents kept clear, especially of flammable items like paper, boxes or clothing?

KITCHEN

Stove

YES	NO	
O	O	When you cook, do you stay in the kitchen?
O	O	Is your stove clear of flammable items?
O	O	Make sure there are no curtains, hanging cords, papers, trash or other flammables near the stove. Keep hot pads, papers and flammable items off the range.
O	O	Is the stove cleaned regularly to remove flammable grease buildup?
O	O	Is there a fire extinguisher within easy reach of the stove?
O	O	Are you careful not to wear loose fitting clothes that may catch fire by coming in contact with a burner? Are all burners turned off when not in use?

Appliances

YES	NO	
O	O	Are kitchen appliances unplugged when not in use?
O	O	Are hot items like toasters and coffee makers clear of flammable items?

Microwave Ovens

YES	NO	
O	O	Are you careful to NEVER use paper, aluminum foil, cans or other metal items in a microwave oven?

Matches or Lighters

YES	NO	
O	O	Are flammable items including matches, lighters or lighter fluid stored out of the reach of children?

LIVING ROOM

YES	NO	
O	O	If members of your family smoke, do they use ashtrays?
O	O	Are ashtrays emptied in a tin can and NEVER in a wastebasket or trash can where they may start a fire?
O	O	Does your fireplace have a fire screen?
O	O	Is caution exercised to keep toddlers from touching hot fireplace doors?
O	O	Are combustible materials kept clear of the fireplace?
O	O	Is the chimney cleaned regularly to avoid flammable buildup?

BEDROOM

YES	NO	
O	O	Are windows and doors able to be easily opened by the family member who sleeps in the room?
O	O	Are all sources of ignition including candles and smoking materials kept away from beds?
O	O	Are bedding materials fire-resistant?
O	O	If the bedroom is above the first floor, is there a ladder or other means of exiting the room in case a fire blocks the main doorway?
O	O	Is there a full water bottle and a towel stored in each bedroom to cover mouth and nose from smoke in case of a fire?

Go Online to Take the Safety Pledge

"I understand that matches and lighters are not toys and should only be used by adults.

I promise NOT to use matches or lighters, and to never play with fire."

https://nie.newsok.com/educators/curriculum/fire-prevention-2016/

BATHROOM

YES	NO	
O	O	Are items like hair dryers and curling irons used safely and allowed to cool before being put away?
O	O	Are cotton balls and other materials used to remove nail polish or other flammable cosmetics stored safely in metal containers before being disposed of?
O	O	Are nail polish and other flammable materials stored away from all heat sources?
O	O	Are pressurized canisters (hair spray, cleaning supplies, etc.) stored away from heat sources?

BASEMENT/ATTIC/GARAGE

YES	NO	
O	O	Is the furnace kept clear of flammable materials?
O	O	Are dangerous or flammable liquids stored safely in proper containers and kept away from heat sources?
O	O	Are newspapers or other paper recyclables discarded regularly?
O	O	Are flammable recyclables disposed of regularly?
O	O	Do power tools have a three-prong outlet for grounding?
O	O	Are major appliances like washers and dryers properly ventilated to avoid overheating?
O	O	Are circuit panels and fuse boxes secured and in repair?
O	O	Are all of your fuses properly installed and maintained? (A penny or improper fuse should never be used to replace a faulty fuse or circuit breaker.)

Give yourself a pat on the back! Your audition for Safety Star shows you're a leader. Keep up the good work.

PART 3

Practice

Make a Fire Escape Plan and practice it several times a year to ensure that if a fire does strike, everyone will know what to do to get out safely.

Follow these steps:

1) Draw a floor plan of your home, including rooms, hallways, stairs, escape windows and exits. (If you have Internet access, you can find free Home Fire Escape Plan grids at www.nfpa.org/escapeplan)

2) Using a brightly colored marker, highlight two separate evacuation routes for each bedroom. One exit may need to be a window if fire blocks a door. Second-story rooms should have access to a ladder or other means of safe exit.

3) Establish a meeting place outside, in front of the house. Our family's outside meeting place is:

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4) Plan where you can phone the fire department from after you have gotten out of the house.

5) Assign adults to be responsible for children, the elderly or members of the household with disabilities.

6) Have flashlights available should the power go out.

7) In case of a fire, try to cover your nose and mouth with a wet cloth to avoid smoke. Smoke and gases rise, so practice staying low and crawling.

8) Remind young children in your family that if a fire occurs, DON'T HIDE! In many instances, a child will become frightened and hide in a closet or under a bed and become trapped.

9) Practice testing the door for heat with the back of your hand. Close doors behind you when leaving a room to help slow down a fire.

CHECK EXIT ROUTES

YES	NO	
O	O	Are keys readily available for dead-bolted locks?
O	O	Do security bars on doors and windows have a quick-release devices inside?
O	O	Can dead-bolt or other locks be opened without a key from inside the house, and do children know how to open all locks?
O	O	Can all family members unlatch door and window locks?
O	O	Are passageways and exits well lit and clear of obstructions?
O	O	Do you have night lights in rooms and hallways to help with your exit?
O	O	Are there fire extinguishers in home or apartment building? Adult family members should know the location of fire extinguishes and how to use them.

LIVE IN AN APARTMENT?

Be sure you know where the fire escape is.

Count the number of doors in your building to get to the exit, because in a fire, you may not be able to see an exit sign.

There are _____ doors to our nearest exit.

NEVER use the elevator if there is a fire in the building. The elevator may fail and go to the floor where the fire is.

SAFETY TAKES CENTER STAGE

In the event of a stove fire, you should NEVER attempt to use water to extinguish a grease fire. Water will only help the fire spread. Turn off the heat and cover the pan with a lid until cool.

YOU ROCK!

Your skill and careful planning now bring you to the special finale: Re-enacting your escape plans. Turn the page for pointers to plan your moves.

Plan Your Escape

Schools have fire drills to make sure all the students and teachers know what to do when the alarm goes off. Having fire drills at home is a great idea too! Practicing is the best way to increase the chances that everyone will get out safely if a fire occurs.

Since many house fires occur at night, you may want to practice one of these drills at bedtime. To begin, have your family members lie in bed with their eyes closed, pretending to be asleep.

Before you start a drill, go over the steps listed to ensure that everyone knows what to do.

FIRE DRILL NO. 1

1) DISCUSS with everyone in the family what the primary exit route is (such as getting out through the bedroom's door) and what the secondary exit route is (such as using the room's window if the door is blocked by fire).

2) ACTIVATE YOUR SMOKE ALARM using the test button so everyone knows what it sounds like.

3) CHECK YOUR DOOR — Remember to feel the door with the back of your hand. In a real fire, don't open the door if it feels warm!

4) EXIT the house following your primary exit route. Move swiftly, but don't run.

5) CLOSE ALL DOORS behind you as you leave. Closing doors helps slow the spread of fire and smoke.

6) GATHER at your predetermined meeting place and make sure everyone is accounted for. In the event of an actual fire, if someone is not accounted for — DO NOT RETURN TO THE HOME. When firefighters arrive on the scene, you will need to let them know who's missing, and their probable location in the home.

7) TALK about how the fire drill went. Did everyone know the exit route and meeting place? Are there any problems that need to be addressed so that exiting would be safer?

FIRE DRILL NO. 2

What to do if trapped by fire

This drill helps people cope with the most serious of emergency fire situations — being caught in a room with a fire right outside the door and no safe way to get out.

1) STAY SAFE FROM SMOKE — Stay low! Use a wet cloth or towel to cover your mouth and nose to protect yourself from smoke and harmful gases.

2) CHECK YOUR DOOR — For this drill, pretend the door is warm and cannot be opened. If you cannot safely exit a room, your top priority now is to make sure firefighters can locate you and help you get out safely. Emergency personnel arrive at a fire scene very quickly — usually within 5 or 10 minutes of receiving a call for help.

3) LET FIREFIGHTERS KNOW WHERE YOU ARE — If you are unable to get out of the room, go to the window, wave a towel or bed sheet and shout so emergency personnel can find you. If it is nighttime, waving a flashlight or lamp also can help firefighters spot you more quickly.

TAKE A BOW!

Your performance landed you a starring role for safety. You have helped to protect your home from fire. Your family can count on you for safety. After all, prevention is the best way to fight fires!

Big Fires Start Small

Here's why practicing home fire drills is so important — fire spreads quickly and you need to get out fast.

After 1 minute, a house fire will be 3 times its original size.

After 4 minutes, the fire will be 11 times its original size.

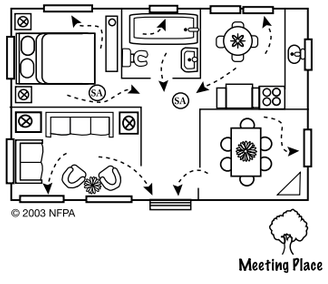
After 6 minutes, the fire will be 50 times its original size.

Safety tip for adults:
Use a fire extinguisher only if you can control the fire, the fire department is being called and there is a clear, safe exit between you and the fire.

HOME FIRE ESCAPE PLAN

Memorize your **fire department's emergency phone number** and write it here: _____

Use the space below to creat your home fire escape plan.



- Draw a floor plan or a map of your home. Show all doors and windows.
- Mark two ways out of each room.
- Mark all of the smoke alarms with (SA). Smoke alarms should be in each sleeping room, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home.
- Pick a family meeting place outside where everyone can meet.
- Remember, practice your plan at least twice a year!

Check out **www.sparky.org** for fire safety games and activities.

Sparky® is a trademark of NFPA.

Grown-ups: Children don't always awaken when the smoke alarm sounds. Know what your child will do before a fire occurs. Get more information on smoke alarms and escape planning at www.nfpa.org/factsheets.

THE _____ FAMILY'S FIRE SAFETY CHECKLIST

EVERYONE in your family has a role to play in you home's fire safety. Both adults and kids should be familiar with smoke alarms and home fire escape planning.

KID'S CHECKLIST

- ☐ Does your home have smoke alarms on every level, inside each bedroom, and outside each sleeping area?
- ☐ Do you know the sound that a smoke alarm sounds?
- ☐ Are all the exits in your home clear of furniture, toys, and clutter?
- ☐ Can you see the number on your house from the street (have a grown-up go with you to check)?
- ☐ Has your family picked a safe place to meet outside if a fire occurs?

GROWN-UP'S CHECKLIST

- ☐ Are the batteries working in all your smoke alarms?
- ☐ Does your home have interconnected smoke alarms (when one sounds, they all sound)?
- ☐ Do you test the batteries in the smoke alarms at least once a month?
- ☐ Does your family have a home fire-escape plan that includes two ways out of each room?
- ☐ Does your entire family practice your plan twice a year?

DO THE DRILL! **Follow these easy steps to complete a fun family fire drill!**

1. Call the family together. Let everyone know that you are going to do a practice fire drill.
2. Explain that when the smoke alarm goes off, everyone should quickly and carefully leave the home and go to the Outside Meeting Place.
3. Ask everyone to go to a different room and wait for the alarm. After several minutes, set off the smoke alarm by pushing the test button and watch your family's actions.
4. When everyone reassembles at the Outside Meeting Place, ask each family member to explain exactly what they did when the alarm went off.
5. Review any questions and repeat the drill at least one more time.

CHECK OUT SPARKY.ORG FOR FUN STUFF!

SMOKE ALARM SAFETY SHEET

Families: Smoke alarms save lives. Make sure the smoke alarms in your home are working. Hang up this handy chart to remind you to test your smoke alarms every month.

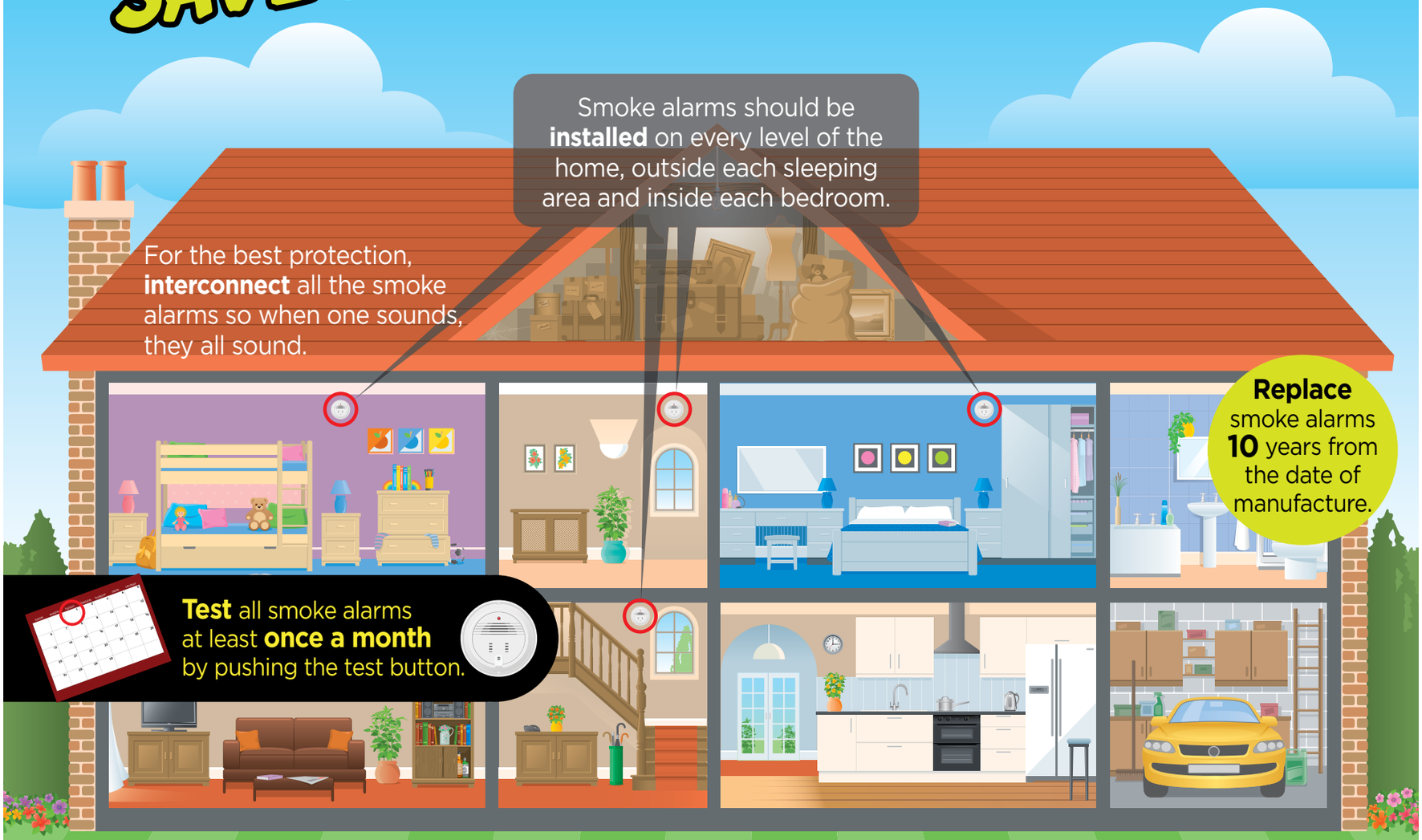
MONTH	TESTED SMOKE ALARMS	SMOKE ALARMS WORKED
OCTOBER		
NOVEMBER		
DECEMBER		
JANUARY		
FEBRUARY		
MARCH		
APRIL		
MAY		
JUNE		
JULY		
AUGUST		
SEPTEMBER		

NFPA®

NFPA reminds you

SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES.

Roughly **two thirds of home fire deaths** happen in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms



When the smoke alarm sounds, **get outside and stay outside.**
Go to your **outside meeting place. Call the fire department** from a cell or neighbor's phone.
Stay outside until the fire department tells you it is safe to go back inside.

Home Fire Sprinklers are Green

OK, you already know that a home fire is very dangerous to the people who live there and to the responding firefighters, right? But did you also know that a fire is very harmful to the environment?

It's True. Home fires damage the Earth in several key ways:

- The carbon emissions that result from burning materials
- The use of water to extinguish the fire
- Polluted runoff from the fire that gets into groundwater and standing water
- The addition of fire-damaged materials that go into landfills
- The carbon emissions that result from replacing materials damaged in the fire.

Preventing a fire in the first place is obviously the best way to help people and the planet. But fires do happen. So a sensible solution is to have a fire technology that not only protects the people and the home from an unwanted blaze, but also helps sustain the Earth. Fortunately, there is one – home fire sprinkler systems.

Fire Sprinkler Technology

Home fire sprinkler systems use the same technology that has been protecting commercial buildings and their occupants for well over a century. But modern designs now use lightweight piping and the sprinklers are small and made to blend into the home's decor.

Sprinkler systems are similar to ordinary plumbing – the pipes are usually hidden behind the walls and ceilings. Sprinklers are installed along the piping according to a design unique to each home. The water is always "on" behind the sprinklers in case fire breaks out. If a fire happens, the sprinkler operates automatically, putting water on the flames and controlling the fire.

That quick action saves lives, prevents injuries, and protects homes and belongings. But it also controls the fire with far less water than fire department hoses, which use more than 10 times the amount of water per minute. A fire in a sprinklered home is quickly controlled; while an unsprinklered home fire will burn and grow so large that it will likely take thousands of gallons of water to knock it down.

Let's do the math: The less time a fire burns the fewer greenhouse gas emissions are released. Less water needed to control the fire means less water is used, and less pollution runs off. Finally, the less fire damage, the fewer materials get hauled to the landfill. With home fire sprinklers, less is more!

For years, fire safety experts believed that fire sprinkler systems were good for the environment. Until recently, no one knew that for certain.

To prove the theory, the nonprofit Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition (HFSC), a national educational organization, teamed up with FM Global, one of the world's largest commercial property insurers. Together, they designed a large-scale test to study the environmental impact of fire with and without fire sprinklers.

Over several weeks, tests were conducted at FM Global's state-of-the-art research campus in West Glocester, Rhode Island. And scientists made national news when they proved without doubt that fire sprinklers also help protect our planet.

Importance of Fire Safety

Since 1955, The New England Chapter of SFPE has provided a means of information exchange and a mechanism for education on various topics related to fire and life safety. The society also provides scholarships through its A.L. Brown Scholarship program to fire protection engineering students from NewEngland, or to those students who are matriculating in fire protection engineering at one of the ABET accredited schools in New England.

Web Sites to Check Out:

This special Newspapers In Education section can be found at

https://nie.newsok.com/educators/curriculum/fire-prevention-2016/

For Kids' Activities

www.alliantenergykids.com

www.smokeybear.com

www.sparky.org

www.sprinklersmarts.org

For Fire Prevention

www.campusfiresafety.org

www.campus-firewatch.com

www.firehouse.com

www.homefiresprinkler.org

www.nfpa.org
(National Fire Protection Association)

www.nfsa.org
(National Fire Sprinkler Association)

www.usfa.dhs.gov
(U.S. Fire Administration)

For Burn Prevention

www.ameriburn.org
(American Burn Association)

www.burninstitute.org

http://burn.iaff.org
(International Association of FirefightersBurnFoundation)

Sponsor Web sites:

www.fmglobal.com
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This educational program brought to you by:

FM Global®

ENTER TO WIN

Check out the activities in the workbook and corresponding lessons for

A CHANCE TO WIN ONE OF SEVERAL PRIZES (AND IF YOU WIN, WE WILL SEND YOUR TEACHER A $500.00 GIFT CARD!).

You can mail your entries to:

Newspapers in Education P.O. Box 25125 Oklahoma City, OK 73125-0125 Or by visiting: **https://nie.newsok.com/educators/curriculum/fire-prevention-2016/**