



[Safety: 5 Ways to Learn About Fire Safety](#)

Disclaimer: The U.S. Department of Education does not mandate or prescribe particular curricula or lesson plans. This information is provided for the visitor's convenience and is included here as an example of the many resources that parents and educators may find helpful and use at their option. See the [full FREE disclaimer](#).

With cold weather can come more use of the kitchen, candles, and other open-flame sources, and some appliances. The winter season, therefore, can present an opportunity to learn more about fire safety. Consider activities with your kids, such as these suggested, to help build a connection with fire safety practices, with information from the U.S. Fire Administration, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Centers for Disease Control, and more.

- 1. Learn about smoke alarms and fire extinguishers:** Make sure your kids know what a [smoke alarm](#) and [fire extinguisher](#) are, and how each is used in conjunction with fire safety. Try a [puzzle to find smoke alarms](#) and then see if kids can find all the alarms in their home. Together you can [test the smoke alarms](#) to make sure batteries are working and check the expiration dates of the fire extinguishers to ensure your fire safety equipment is up to date. Consider doing a home [safety checklist](#), to show your kids how to ensure the residence is safe and emergency-ready.
- 2. Practice fire safety in the kitchen:** While making a [favorite recipe](#) with your kids, consider showing them how to use the [stove or oven safely](#). Trying [some seasonal recipes](#) or [exploring a new dish](#) provides opportunity for first-hand execution of [fire safety in the kitchen](#).

10 Fire Safety Rules

- 1.) Don't play with matches and lighters. If you see matches or a lighter where you can reach them, don't touch them. Go tell a grown up right away.
- 2.) Ask your parents to install smoke detectors on every floor and in the sleeping areas of your home. Smoke detectors can save lives. Ask your parents to show you where each one is located.
- 3.) Remind your parents to test your smoke detectors every month. Make sure everyone in your family is familiar with its piercing sound. Teach them that this sound means danger, and they must escape quickly.
- 4.) When your parents change the time on your clocks for Daylight Savings, ask them to change your smoke alarm batteries. Give it fresh batteries and your smoke alarm will stay awake and watch for fire while you are sleeping.
- 5.) In case of fire: **DON'T HIDE, GO OUTSIDE!** Fires are scary, but you should **NEVER** hide in closets or under beds when there is a fire.
- 6.) To escape during a fire; **Fall & Crawl**. It is easier to breath in a fire if you stay low while getting out. Use the back of your hand to test if a door is hot before you open it. If it is hot, try to use another way out.
- 7.) If your clothes are on fire; **Stop, Drop, and Roll** until the fire is out. Shout for help, but don't run. Running makes fire burn faster.
- 8.) Have an escape plan and practice it with your family. Find two ways out of every room in case one way is blocked by fire or smoke. Practice escaping by both routes to be sure windows are not stuck and screens can be taken out quickly.
- 9.) Choose a meeting place outside, such as a big tree or the end of the driveway, so you will know that everyone has gotten out safely. **NEVER** go back into a burning building for any reason. If someone is missing, tell the firefighters. They have the clothing and equipment to safely rescue people.
- 10.) Know your local emergency number. Put stickers and magnets with emergency numbers on your refridgerator and every telephone in the house. If there is a fire at your house, choose one family member to leave your meeting place and call the fire department from a neighbor's phone.



3. Try online activities: Get online with your kids, and [read about fire safety and then try some games](#). Build an [emergency kit](#) online, discussing what would be needed when having to evacuate home due to a fire. With younger kids, do some [fire safety online coloring](#). Kids can test their fire safety knowledge in an [online quiz](#).



4. Make a fire safety plan: Let your kids know [what to do in a fire](#). As a family, check out your residence and plan more than one escape route from each room in the house. Older kids can [draw a map of the house and outline routes](#). With younger kids, [read about making a fire safety plan](#), and practice different escape routes together until they feel confident in exiting on their own, and going to a designated meeting place.



5. Take a field trip: [Contact your local firehouse](#) and see if you can arrange a visit for your kids. See what your kids can [learn about a fire station](#) before going. Ask them ahead of time what questions they may have about fire safety. These and [other resources](#) are just a few suggestions to help your kids understand the importance of fire safety. Check out more [ideas from FREE](#) on activities that could spark their interest and desire to learn.

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