



Fire Prevention Week (FPW) October 9-15, 2022

Teacher's Overview - Teens

Thank you for being part of the FNESS team, bringing lifesaving fire safety information to teens and their families. With your help and the resources in this package, learning how to stay safe from fire can be easy and fun!

For Students

1. Smoke Alarm and Escape Planning Activity

Fire is very fast and if there is a fire ... every second counts. This activity teaches teens the importance of home escape planning to increase the chances of survival should a fire occur in their home. Having two ways out of every room increases the likelihood of everyone getting out quickly and safely, as does working smoke alarms that provide early warning of a fire. Smoke alarms should be on each level of the home and in each sleeping area.

Provide a copy of the activity sheet to each student. This activity can be done individually, in groups, or as a class. Review responses using the answer key provided as a guide.

2. Fire Safety Scenarios

The fire related scenarios presented in this activity describe situations where teens may find themselves in a position to make important decisions about what actions they should take.

These scenarios can be used in several way, for written assignments, presentations (group or individual), or for class discussions. Discussion prompts for a class debrief have been provided.

For Families

1. Family Home Escape Planning Assignment

This family assignment targets the importance of home escape planning and ensuring working smoke alarms are in the home. Adults play a significant leadership role in this regard.

Provide a copy of the family assignment to students and ask them to take it home to create an escape plan with their family. This assignment should be signed off by all family members as their commitment to fire safety.

2. Contest Entry

Once families have developed their home escape plan and completed the home escape plan checklist, they can enter to win a family prize!

Directions for entering the draw are in the assignment.

For You

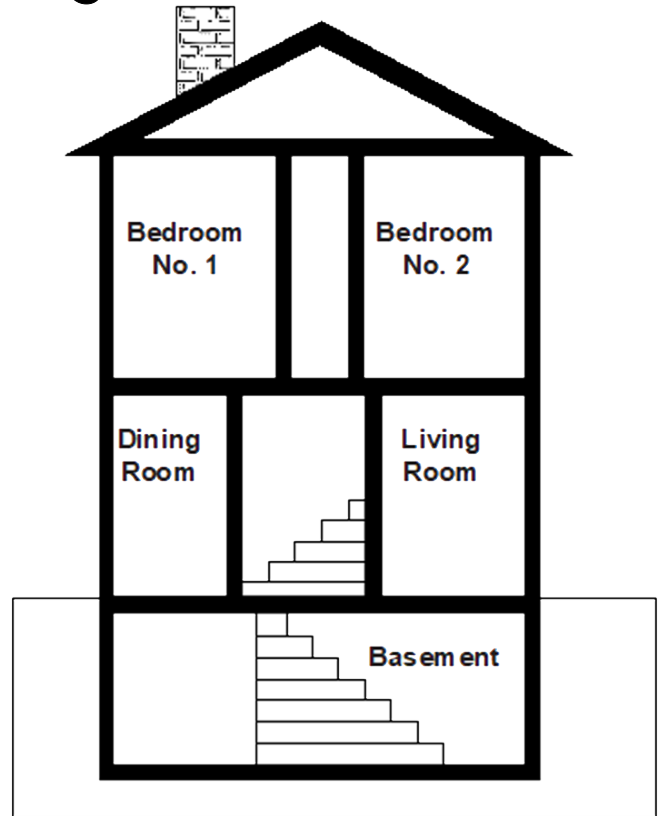
Teaching students and their families to stay fire safe would not be possible without you. As our thanks, you will receive a *Fire Safety Education Certificate* for your classroom and will be entered into a prize draw.



Smoke Alarms & Escape Planning

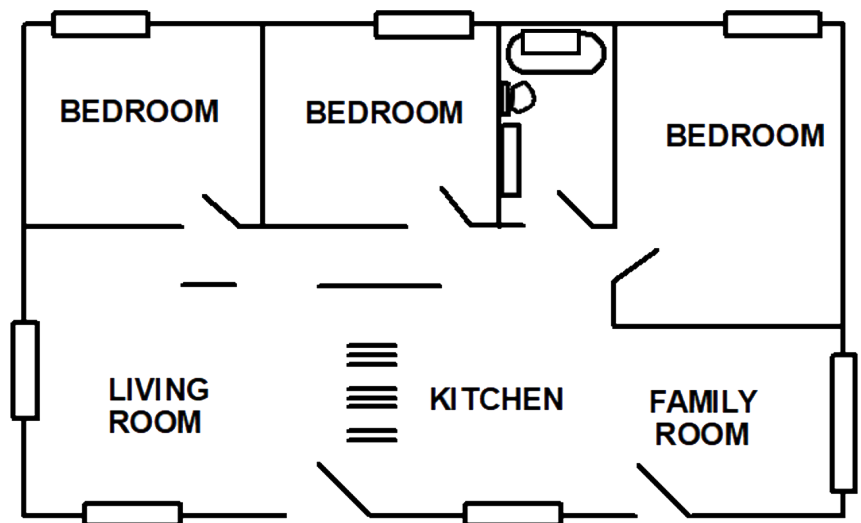
A. Smoke Alarm Placement

Fire and smoke are fast and you may only have minutes to escape. Early warning is critical and smoke alarms provide that. Show where the smoke alarms should be placed in this home.



B. Escape Planning

Once the smoke alarm sounds, having a plan to get out quickly and safely is key. Plan two ways out of this home - if your first exit is blocked you must have another way out. Identify a family meeting place outside the home to know everyone got out safely.

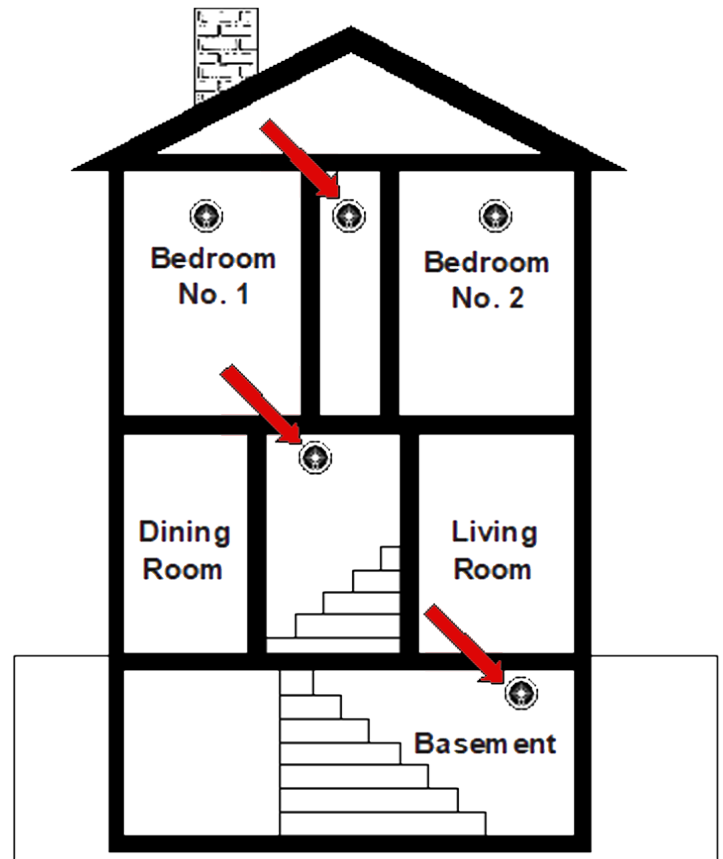




Smoke Alarms & Escape Planning ANSWER KEY

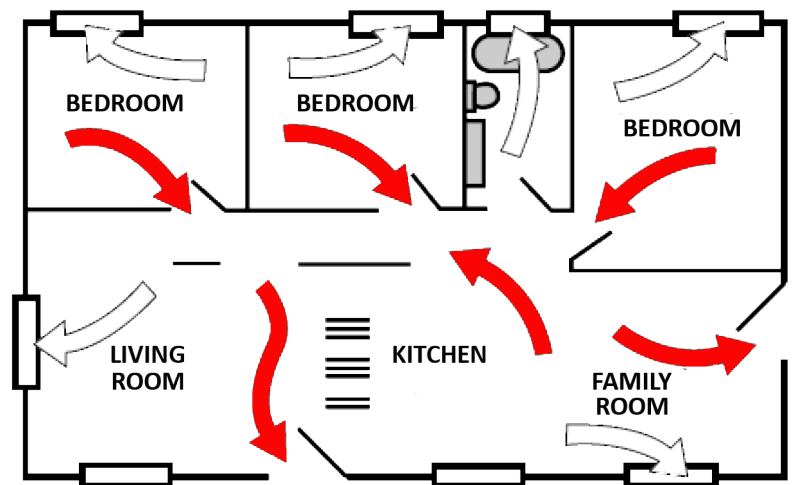
A. Smoke Alarm Placement

Smoke alarms should be placed on each level of the home and outside all sleeping areas. For maximum protection smoke alarms should also be placed in sleeping areas.



B. Escape Planning

When there is a fire in your home, to get out safely, every second counts. That's why planning is so important. Identifying two ways out from every room in the home increases everyone's chance of survival. Help parents and caregivers create a home escape plan and practice it with all family members.



Family Meeting Place





Fire Safety Scenarios

Teacher's Guide

Introduction

This activity has been designed for teen aged children. Teens are challenged with situations at school, at home, and with friends every day. Some situations involve making decisions that impact not only the decision maker but also others they may be with and/or responsible for. The fire related scenarios presented in this activity describe situations where teens may find themselves in a position to make important decisions about what actions they should take. The fire incident described may be the result of something the individual has done directly or from the actions of others. Regardless, decisions made can either positively or negatively impact the outcome of the situation.

The following four scenarios have been provided.

1. **House Fire** - This scenario involves a fire that has occurred in the teen's home in the middle of the night and requires decisions to get out of the home safely.
2. **Cooking Fire** - This scenario describes a cooking fire started by a group of teens cooking an after-school snack.
3. **Campfire** - This scenario describes a teen lit campfire in a remote forested location that gets out of control.
4. **Fireworks** - This scenario describes a fire that starts because of unsupervised use of fireworks by a group of teens.

Potential Classroom Delivery Options

These scenarios can be used in several ways:

- Reflection and written assignments
- Presentations (group or individual)
- Group or class discussions and debriefing

As important as the actual decisions themselves are, the conversations about why those decisions were chosen and the consequences of them are equally relevant.

To help guide discussions, prompts and fire facts have been included in your teacher copy of each scenario.

You may find that following your class discussions, there are still questions and additional information needed. This may be a good time to reach out to your local fire department or FNESS for a class presentation/training.



Scenario 1 - House Fires

(Teacher's Copy)

The Situation

You wake up in the middle of the night to the sound of your dog barking. When you walk out of your bedroom you smell smoke and feel a lot of heat. You also hear the crackling of fire. You are instantly confused, scared and panicky. What actions do you take?

Considerations

There are several things to consider when deciding what actions to take in this situation.

- How much time do you think you and your family need to get out of the house?
- What do you take with you? Cellphone/clothes/pets/purse?
- Do you have two ways out? What if your first exit is blocked from heat/smoke/fire? What if your second exit is too high to jump out of or does not open?
- Do you think you could survive if you ran through the smoke and heat? Is there another alternative to trying to escape from the smoke and heat? What do you do if the only safe place is in your room, and you have to wait for help?
- What if everyone leaves from different exits? How do you know that all family members got out of the home safely?
- Once you are safely out, what if you don't see your pets or family members...do you go back into the home?
- When do you call the fire department?

Class Discussion/Debrief Prompts

1. What decisions were the most difficult for you to make and why?
2. Did you consider the consequences of the decisions you were considering?
3. Was there information you didn't have that would have helped you make better decisions?
4. How could you and your family prepare to survive a fire if one occurs in your home?

The Fire Facts

Fire is fast, hot, black, and toxic, and you may have as little as 1-2 minutes to escape. Most people who are injured or do not survive a fire are victims of smoke inhalation. That's why you need an early warning that there is a fire, and a plan to escape quickly and safely.

Early Warning:

- When you are sleeping you will not smell smoke but working smoke alarms will.
- Smoke alarms detect fires by sensing small particles in the air, and when there are enough of them, they sound the alarm.
- Smoke alarms can only do that if they are working, so they must be tested every monthly.
- Install smoke alarms on every level of the home and inside all bedrooms/sleeping areas to maximize protection.

Escape Quickly and Safely:

- Planning will increase your chances of surviving a fire in your home. Together with your family, create and practice a home escape plan that shows 2 ways out of each room in the home.
- When you attempt to escape using your primary exit, crawl low where the air is cleaner. If your primary exit is blocked use your second way out. If you can't escape from the house, know that sheltering in place with the door closed will buy you time for rescue.
- Decide on a place to meet outside the home to ensure everyone is out safely. Once safely out, call 9-1-1 or your emergency number. Make a pledge to not go back in the home for any reason.



Scenario 2 - Cooking Fire (Teacher's Copy)

The Situation

After school, you and your friends are hungry and decide to cook some french fries on the stove using oil in a frying pan. While the fries are cooking you play a video game and forget all about the fries. After some time, one of your friends remembers there are fries cooking and when you walk into the kitchen, flames are rising from the frying pan. You immediately call out to your friends with a sense of fear and panic. What do you do?

Considerations

There are several things to consider when deciding what actions to take in this situation.

- Are there other people in the home?
- Is the fire contained to the frying pan?
- Do you know how to extinguish a grease fire?
- Do you have a lid to cover the pan and smother the flames? Can that be done safely?
- Is there a fire extinguisher available and do you know how to use it?
- Do you have a clear exit to leave the home?
- When do you call 9-1-1 or your emergency number?

Class Discussion/Debrief Prompts

1. What decisions were the most difficult for you to make and why?
2. Did you think about the consequences of the decisions you were considering?
3. Was there information you didn't have that would have helped you make better decisions?
4. How could you prepare to deal with a kitchen fire going forward?

The Fire Facts

Cooking fires are a leading cause of home fires and unattended cooking is a major contributing factor. Protect yourself, your loved ones and your home with knowledge and prevention measures.

Knowledge:

- Cooking with oil can be unpredictable. Oil heats up very quickly and always requires supervision.
- If a fire occurs while cooking, fighting it may not be the best action. Remember, if there is a fire (any type of fire) in your home, the priority is life safety.
- If the cooking fire is small and you can contain and/or extinguish it, cover the pot/pan with a lid or cookie sheet to take away the air, then turn the stove off.
- Never put water on a grease fire. It will cause an explosion and spread the fire.
- Never pick up a pan with flames. You could spill the contents and spread the fire or seriously burn yourself. If you do get burned, cool the burn for 10-15 minute in or under cool water.
- For oven fires, keep the door closed and turn off the oven.
- If the fire is too big and growing quickly, get everyone out of the house immediately and call 9-1-1 or your emergency number.

Prevention Measures:

- Ensure adults have given you permission to cook without their presence and you have reviewed safety protocols.
- Consider not cooking with oil period. It is unpredictable and the consequences of the fire could be deadly.
- Never leave cooking unattended. Even if the cooking process takes time, stay in the kitchen to monitor.
- If you must leave the kitchen for any reason, put on a timer to remind you to return. It is SO easy to get involved in other activities and forget about what is cooking.
- Ensure your home has working smoke alarms, and everyone knows 2 ways out.
- If you have a fire extinguisher and have been trained on how to use it, make sure everyone is out of the home and you have a safe exit for yourself.



Scenario 3 - Campfire (Teacher's Copy)

The Situation

You and your friends often go to the ravine to hang out. It's getting cold so you decide to light a campfire. A huge gust of wind catches the fire and moves it up the ravine into the adjacent property. Your group tries to put the fire out, but it moves too fast and eventually destroys an outbuilding on the adjacent property.

Not wanting to get caught, you and your friends run in different directions to get away, but the property owner recognizes a few of you. Soon after you get home, the property owner knocks on your door to talk to you and your parents.

What do you do?

Considerations

There are several things to consider when deciding what actions to take in this situation.

- Are you tempted to deny that you were involved and place the blame on someone else?
- Are you fearful of taking responsibility for the fire?
- Are you tempted to protect your friends by taking sole responsibility?
- What were your intentions in starting the fire? Was it for a purpose?
- Was the group prepared if the fire grew larger than intended?
- Did you consider potential consequences such as property damage, emergency response, injury, and loss of life?
- Is there a fire ban due to dry weather?

Class Discussion/Debrief Prompts

1. Is it okay to light fires without an adult present or close by? In what circumstances would it be okay for teens to have a fire without an adult close by?
2. Is there such a thing as a safe fire? What makes a fire safe?
3. Should teens be held responsible if the fire they set gets out of control?
4. What could the consequences be if the fire causes property damage, injury, or loss of life?
5. What kinds of injuries could occur if you tried to put out the fire without proper extinguishing tools?

The Fire Facts

Before choosing to light a fire, you need to understand fire behaviour and your responsibility for the fire. This includes an understanding of the consequences should the fire get out of control.

Fire Behaviour:

- Fire requires fuel, heat, and oxygen to burn. Take away any of these three elements and the fire will go out. Add more of any of the three elements and the fire will grow.
- Fire can spread very quickly and be very difficult to contain. In the case of a campfire, controlling elements such as weather (wind, lightning) and fuel (grass, wood, etc.) is often difficult.
- What begins as a simple campfire, can quickly grow into a fast moving forest fire.
- Even if you know how fire behaves and how to control it, others in your group may not.

Consequences:

- Even if a fire is set unintentionally, you may have to pay for damages, do community service, face the property owner, and apologize, or a combination of the above. Consequences may be decided by police, parents/caregivers, Elders, or the school.
- You, your friends and others can get seriously hurt from either attempting to extinguish the fire, or escaping from it.



Scenario 4 - Fireworks (Teacher's Copy)

The Situation

You and your friends have put your money together and convinced someone to buy an assortment of fireworks. You plan to meet on the weekend at one of your friends' homes (the adults have gone out) and have some fun.

No one is trained on how to use the fireworks, and no one bothers to read instructions. It all seems easy and straight forward. It doesn't take long for the group to get excited, and fireworks are going off all over the place. One of the fireworks goes sideways and starts a fire in the cedar hedge. While attempting to extinguish the hedge fire, your friend's t-shirt catches fire. Everyone is scared and panicky. What do you do?

Considerations

There are several things to consider when deciding what actions to take in this situation.

- What is the priority? The hedge fire? Clothes on fire? Ongoing fireworks?
- How do you help your friend whose clothes are on fire?
- What do you do about the burning hedge?
- Is it ok to leave the scene and expect others to do something?
- When do you call for help?

Class Discussions/Debrief Prompts

Fireworks are exciting and enticing. Buying fireworks or making home-made versions are common but come with significant risk. It's important for teens to understand the risks and consequences of using these products.

1. Is it legal for teens to buy or use fireworks?
2. Do teens have the required training to use fireworks, or build their own?
3. What could be some consequences of illegally using fireworks without professional training?
 - Injury to themselves and innocent bystanders
 - Injury to first responders
 - Unintentional fires (they are still responsible for)
 - Restitution
 - Parents and the community may determine consequences

The Fire Facts

Fireworks are essentially explosions. They can be unpredictable and without proper training can be deadly. Injuries from fireworks and firecrackers can be life altering and what starts out as an exciting and fun event can quickly end in devastating results. Teens can enjoy fireworks responsibly by attending community led displays which are overseen by trained adults.



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Dear Parent/Caregivers,

Keeping your family safe from fire is our top priority. And to do this we need your help! By completing the family assignment below, your family will be better prepared to quickly and safely leave the home in the event of fire. Once the assignment has been completed and returned to your child's school, your family will be entered in a draw for some great prizes!

Thank you so much for taking the time to complete this assignment. We hope you never have a fire in your home, but if it does happen, your family is now prepared to survive!

Instructions:

1. Develop a home escape plan for your family using the grid provided.
2. Complete the Home Escape Plan Checklist. 
3. Have ***all members of your family*** sign the bottom of this form.
4. Return this form to the school to enter your family in the Fire Prevention Week prize draw.

HOME ESCAPE PLAN CHECKLIST

- ☐ Our family has completed our Home Escape Plan and posted it.
- ☐ Our family has practised our Home Escape Plan.
- ☐ Our home has working smoke alarms on each level and in every sleeping area.
- ☐ Everyone in our home knows how to call 9-1-1 or your emergency number after safely getting out of the house.
- ☐ We have posted our "Exit 1/Exit 2" signs in bedrooms.
- ☐ Our family has promised to help our elders create a home escape plan, practise the plan, and check for working smoke alarms.

School Name: _____

Teacher's Name: _____

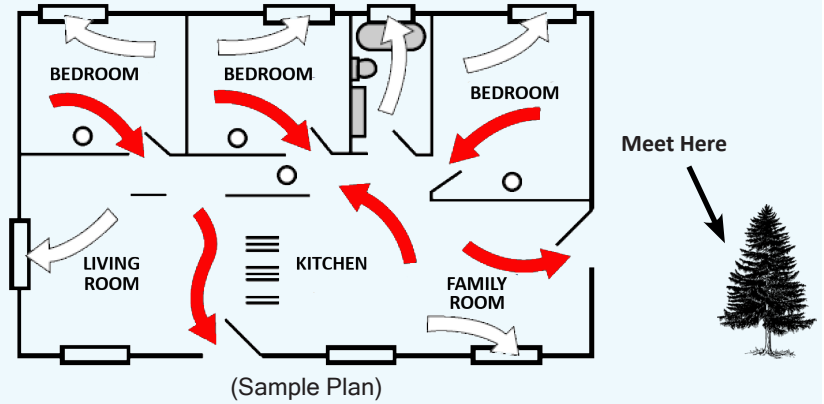
Family Name: _____

Family Signatures: _____

Home Escape Plan

Instructions:

1. Draw a plan of your home.
2. Show two ways out of each room.
3. Show locations of working smoke alarms.
4. Plan a meeting spot.
5. Practice.

This image shows a full page of blank graph paper. The grid consists of small, uniform squares formed by thin, light gray lines. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.

KNOW YOUR WAY OUT

Cut out these two signs and use them to mark two exits in your child's room.

EXIT 1



EXIT 2

Fire Prevention Week 2022: Contest Entry Form

Student Name: _____ Address: _____
City/town: _____ Postal code: _____ Phone: _____
School Address: _____ Indigenous school Grade: _____
Name of teacher: _____
Your local Fire Department: _____ Skill testing question: Test your smoke alarms _____ a month.

HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO DO TO ENTER:

Complete your home escape plan and talk to the people you live with about what you've learned. Submit the completed entry form to the BC Professional Fire Fighters' Burn Fund by November 4, 2022.

CONTEST RULES:

Visit www.gov.bc.ca/FirePreventionWeek for the full contest rules and how to enter.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: November 4, 2022

MAILING ADDRESS FOR ENTRIES:

BC Professional Fire Fighters' Burn Fund 3891 Main Street, Vancouver, BC V5V 3P1

EMAIL FOR ENTRIES:

FirePreventionWeek@burnfund.org

Teacher Signature

Date



The Fire Prevention Week 2022 Contest is hosted by the BC Office of the Fire Commissioner in partnership with the BC Professional Fire Fighters' Burn Fund, Fire Prevention Officers Association of BC, and the First Nations' Emergency Services Society.

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