



Fire Prevention Week October 8-14, 2023

Dear Teacher,

Fire Prevention Week (FPW) is fast approaching and FNESS wants to help you to support your classes and community to stay fire safe! First Nations' Emergency Services Society of British Columbia (FNESS) is excited to provide you with some easy-to-use fire and life safety resources to use in your classrooms this FPW. Remember, it's always a good time to teach our children to stay safe so feel free to use the materials provided year-round!

This year's FPW theme is 'Cooking Safety Starts with YOU! Pay Attention to Fire Prevention'™. Cooking related fires are a leading cause of home fires and injuries and sadly, our babies, children, and Elders are at greatest risk. The good news is that most cooking fires are preventable, and we can teach children how to stay safe in the kitchen.

Building on last years' success, our 2023 campaign reaches all students from kindergarten through grade seven, with lifesaving fire safety information and activities. It is easily accessible on the FNESS Fire Prevention Week webpage (fness.bc.ca/resource/fire-prevention-week-2023) and includes everything you need for classroom delivery.

There are 3 parts to your FPW Teacher Package: Classroom Materials and Activities, Family Handout, and Poster Contest.

1. Classroom Materials and Activities

- Resources in your package focus on this years' FPW theme, 'Cooking Safety Starts with YOU! Pay Attention to Fire Prevention'™. This theme emphasizes the importance of staying safe in the kitchen.
- Classroom materials target children ages K-7 and are broken down into the following age categories for ease of delivery: K- grade 1, grades 2-4, grades 5-7.
- There is one activity sheet and one quiz for each age group complete with answer keys. Both can be used as an individual or group activity, however we have found that completing the quiz as a class can create great discussion and clear understanding of correct responses.

2. Family Handout

- Fire safety at home is a family affair! Parents and caregivers play an important role in ensuring their homes and families are safe. For this reason, your package also includes a Cooking Fire Safety Poster to send home to families.

3. Poster Contest and Prizes

- Eligible Grades – Kindergarten to Grade 7
- Poster Theme – Stay fire safe in the kitchen!
- Contest Information – See 2023 Fire Prevention Week Contest Entry Form attached.
- Prizes – 6 VISA gift cards valued at \$50.00 each will be awarded. There will be two winners chosen for each of the following grade categories: K-Grade 1, Grades 2-4, Grades 5-7.

In closing, I want to thank you for educating children and families in your community about fire safety. Sadly, fire losses (deaths, injuries, and destruction of property) in First Nation communities, particularly those on remote First Nations communities, far exceed those in comparable off-reserve communities. But together, through education and other fire prevention practices, we can begin to change that.

If you have any questions or need support, please don't hesitate to contact me at ajuma@fness.bc.ca. I'm here to help!

For more Fire Prevention Week information and resources please visit our website at www.fness.bc.ca.

Sincerely,



Alisha Juma, Fire Services Coordinator
First Nations' Emergency Services Society of British Columbia