

SEE WHAT A REAL HOME FIRE IS LIKE! October is National Fire Safety Month, and many local TV stations across the country will be presenting the award-winning fire safety special, "Plan to Get Out Alive." Sponsored by McDonald's and First Alert, this program is based on a 15-part news series by WCBS-TV (New York). It takes a "you are there" look at the startling realities of home fires. Check your local listing for date, channel and time of the broadcast.

FIRST ALERT SAFETY TIPS

Smoke detectors are an excellent early warning system. When a home fire starts, every second counts. A smoke alarm can provide the valuable time needed to exit the home safely.

- **Choose** only detectors that are tested and rated by Underwriters Laboratories (UL).
- **Locate** detectors on each level of your home, and especially on the hallway ceiling near the sleeping area. Don't place them too close to cooking areas, in the garage or near vents.
- **Maintain** units by testing batteries monthly and replacing weak ones immediately.

Fire Extinguishers, though not designed to fight full-scale fires, are excellent for putting out small fires that have just started. Everyone in the house except for the smallest children should know how to use them.

Fire extinguishers are available in two types to fight the three classes of residential fires—A, B and C. Read the label carefully on the fire extinguisher package to assure that the unit that meets your specific needs is selected. Different areas of the home will require different extinguishers; for example, a kitchen extinguisher is best for fighting grease and electrical fires.

- **Locate** extinguishers on each level of your home. Keep one in the kitchen, not too close to the stove. Don't forget the garage, workshop, basement, camper and vacation home.
- **Maintain** extinguishers by checking them monthly to be sure each unit is holding its charge.

These fire safety tips are provided by B.R.K. Electronics, manufacturers of First Alert® home fire safety products.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON FIRE SAFETY

write to:
United States Fire Administration
16825 S. Seton Avenue
Emmitsburg, Maryland 21727

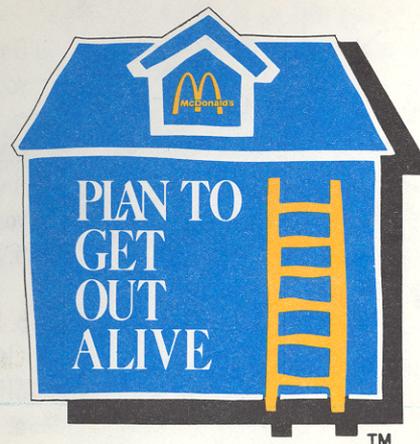


Developed in cooperation with the United States Fire Administration

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KIDS—FIRE SAFETY GAMES INSIDE!

FIRE!



IT'S NOT LIKE TV OR THE MOVIES..

A real fire is a pitch-black nightmare that can trap you in seconds. More than 60,000 people will be killed or injured in home fires this year because they, like most Americans, don't know what a real fire is like until it's too late. Protect your family by learning what to do when fire strikes. **Practice fire safety and know how to survive!**



4 FACTS ABOUT FIRE

"Kids! Follow me through these facts to become Fire Safety Smart!"



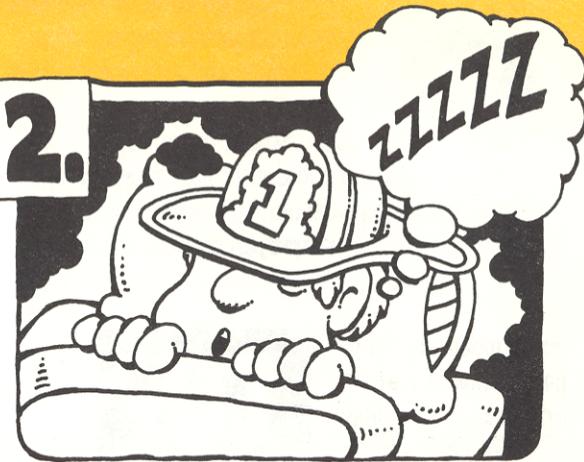
1.



FIRE IS BLACK.

A real fire is so dark that you can barely see the flames. You will be lost and confused by the thick smoke even in your own bedroom, unless you know what to do. You must know how to escape your home with your eyes closed!

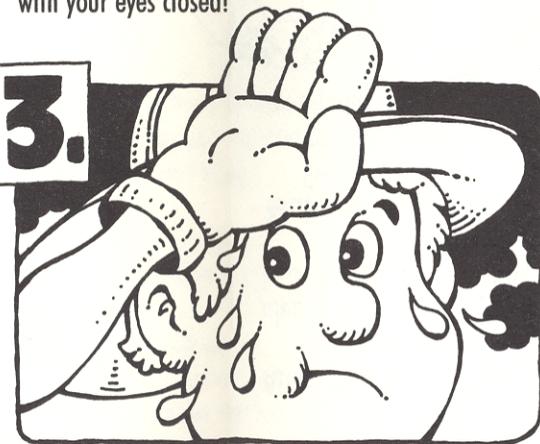
2.



THE SMELL OF SMOKE WILL NOT WAKE YOU.

The poisonous gases actually put you into a deeper sleep! Most fires occur at night and only a loud noise, such as a smoke alarm, will wake you when you're sleeping.

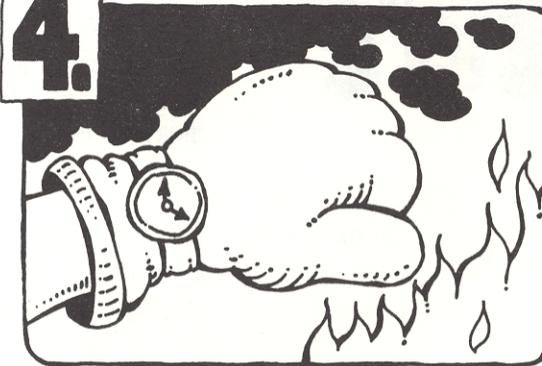
3.



THE FIRE'S HEAT IS INTENSE.

You don't have to be near the flames to be injured. Your body cannot survive temperatures higher than 150 degrees, and a fire can rage over 600 degrees! Learn what you can do to survive this kind of heat.

4.



THERE IS NO TIME TO THINK.

You may have as little as one minute to escape once a fire starts. If a fire is not put out in 30 seconds it should be considered beyond control. Every second must be used to get out!

Plan to get out alive! Here's how.

McDonald's

WHAT TO DO IN A FIRE

- **When the fire alarm wakes you, roll out of bed to the floor.**

Always stay as close to the floor as possible; the air is cleaner and cooler near the ground. In a blaze the temperature at knee level may be as cool as 90 degrees, but a burning 690 degrees at shoulder level! Stay on your hands and knees to avoid the heat and smoke.



- **Crawl to the door and touch it to see if it's hot.**

If the door is cool, open it a crack to check for smoke. If there is none, leave by your escape route. Remember to crawl and keep your head low. On your way out be sure to close all doors behind you. This can delay the fire for hours.



- **Do not open the door if it feels hot!**

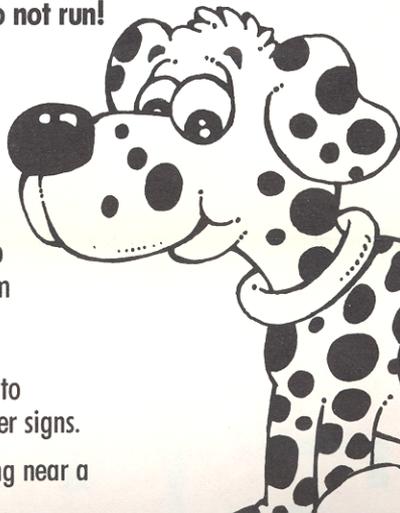
Opening the door will only let in the harmful smoke and gas. Keep the door shut and look for an alternate escape route. Go out the window if possible.

- **If you are unable to leave your room or apartment,** seal the cracks around the door with wet towels or blankets, and try to let some fresh air in through the window. Call the fire department if you can and tell them exactly where you are. Shout for help and signal your position by waving a bright cloth, towel or sheet.



- **If your clothes catch fire, do not run!**

STOP where you are, DROP to the ground and ROLL to put out the flames.



Now you've learned what to do if you are caught in a fire, but do you know how to keep a fire from breaking out in your home? Here are some of the most common causes of fire. Search your house to see if you spot any of these danger signs.

—cigarettes left smoldering near a bed or sofa

PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY

- **Always sleep with your bedroom door closed.**

The closed door will delay the fire and give you time to escape. It is also a good idea to keep a flashlight near your bed so you can find your way around. Remember, in a real fire there is no light!

- **Make sure your family has a fire escape plan.**

Everyone in your home should know two escape routes from every room. With your parents, decide on a place outside where you can meet to be sure

everyone has escaped safely. PRACTICE a Home Fire Drill often!



- **Know how to dial the emergency fire number 911.**

Post this number near the phone where it

911

will be easily seen. Memorize your complete address so you can tell it to the fire department.

- **Check your smoke detectors.**

Because the smell of smoke will not wake you while you sleep, you must rely on a smoke alarm to save your life. Make sure your home has a smoke detector near each sleeping area and escape route. Remember to change the batteries often.



- **DO THIS TEST AT HOME**

Stand in your bedroom or another room that you know very well. Close your eyes and turn around three times. Keeping your eyes closed, crawl on your hands and knees to the door. Can you find it quickly in the dark?

This is how you would feel in a real fire. Even if you know your room very well, it will be difficult to find your way out. You can be prepared by practicing your escape

- cooking left unattended
- overloaded electrical outlets
- children playing with lighters or matches



route often and keeping a flashlight nearby.

FIRE SAFETY QUIZ

"Let's see what you've learned about fire safety!"



- Most fires happen at night while you're asleep.
True or False?
a. crawl c. cough
b. roll d. wave

- Once a fire breaks out, how much time do you have to escape?
a. As little as 1 minute c. 5 minutes
b. 3 minutes d. 10 minutes
- If you see fire and smoke in the hallway when you open your bedroom door you should
a. Go back into your room and close the door.
b. Run towards your escape route.
- Circle which of the following things you SHOULD do in a fire.
a. Hide under a bed or in a closet.
b. Stay as close to the ground as possible.
c. Take an elevator to escape the fire faster.
d. Be sure to close doors behind you as you escape.

(Answers: 1. True 2. b 3. a 4. a 5. b, d)

Scramble

Unscramble these letters, then arrange the circled letters to form the surprise word at the bottom!

This is the best way to learn fire safety

1)

	A	P	R	C	T	E	C	I	
	○								

Fire is this

2)

	L	C	B	K	A	
		○				

When you are asleep you cannot smell this

3)

	O	S	E	M	K	
	○					

This is so intense it will injure you before the flames will

4)

	T	H	A	E	
				○	

When fire breaks out, this is not on your side

5)

	M	I	E	T	
			○		

Congratulations! Now that you've learned how to survive a fire you are **FIRE SAFETY**

○	○	○	○	○
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(Answers: 1. practice 2. black 3. smoke 4. heat 5. time. Congratulations, you are fire safety SMART.)

Plan to get out alive! Here's how.

