## YOUR FAMILY'S FIRE ESCAPE PLAN

#### **Practice Makes Perfect**

House fires can start very quickly and spread even quicker. The best way to escape from a fire fast is to have a plan of action. Practice escape drills with your children. Have everyone memorize two ways out of every room in the house. Make sure that you and your family know how to check doors for heat, crawl low in smoke and stop, drop and roll. Find a safe meeting place for the whole family to meet after getting out of the house, and teach your children to call 9-1-1, or your local emergency number, from a neighbor's phone. Remember, practice makes perfect.

#### **Preparation is the Best Prevention**

The best way to protect you and your children from a fire is to prevent it from starting. Inspect your entire house. Replace all frayed, cut or broken electrical cords, and make sure that all matches and lighters are out of the reach and sight of your children. Store all cloth and paper products away from heat sources, store combustible liquids safely in locked cabinets or closets, and have your children pick up all their clothes and toys after using them. Prepare for the worstand expect the best.

ct now to make your home safe.

TAKE



each your child how to recognize dangers.

ACTION

nfluence your child to always play it safe.

rganize your home to prevent injuries.

urture and praise your children everyday

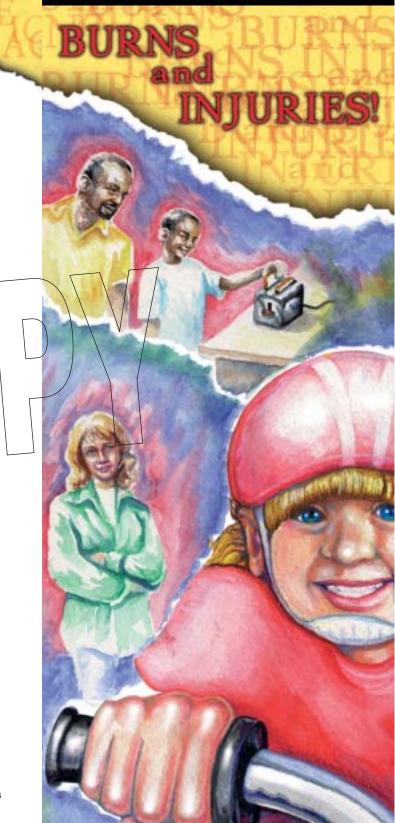
The more you teach your children, the easier it is to keep them burn and injury free.



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### Protect Your Children Against



# SAFETY IS YOUR CHILD'S BEST FRIEND!



#### In the Kitchen

Point out to children all things in the kitchen that get hot. When cooking, turn pot handles inward, boil water only on the back burners and restrict side access to the stove. Mark a safety zone around the cooking area to keep children at a safe distance. Also, keep young children away from hot liquids like soups and coffee.

> Make sure no one ever puts anything metal in the microwave. Use only microwave safe containers. If heated food is covered in plastic, be aware of scalding hot steam. Steam can cause severe burns, so always check food for heat before serving. Never store favorite foods ahd snacks where young children might climb for them, keep sharp knives stored safely out of reach, and never

let electrical cords dangle over counter tops where a child could grab them. Also, wipe up spills immediately to prevent falls.

Unplug electrical appliances and put them away when not in use. Let only responsible kids use appliances like the toaster, and only with adult supervision.

Remember to keep appliances far away from water at all times to avoid electric shock!

#### In the Bathroom

- Use non-slip rubber mats in bathtubsrand showers.
- Teach your kids to always turn on the cold water first, before the hot, when using the sink or bathtub.
- Make sure kids never use electrical appliances like radios or hair dryers near water!
  Teach kids to never touch medicines or strange bottles in bathroom cabinets.
- Make sure your kids know to only take medicine when a parent, doctor or nurse gives it to them.

#### Around the House

- Secure all household rugs with rubber undermats.
- Store all dangerous chemicals and cleaning products in locking cabinets or closets.
- Keep matches and lighters out of reach and sight of children at all times! Teach your kids to go find an adult right away if they ever see matches or lighters.
- Teach children to always pick up their clothes and toys after using them.
- Teach children never to play near heat sources like space heaters or the fireplace.
  If you own any firearms, keep
- them in locked cabinets or closets

#### Outside

Teach your children to stay away from dangers in the back yard and garage, such as: garden tools, gasoline cans, paint cans, lawnmowers and cars. Explain to them that car and lawnmower engines stay very hot, even after being turned off. When skating or riding bikes, children should always wear helmets, knee pads, elbow pads and wrist pads, and should never play or ride in the street. Teach them also to look both ways before crossing, and to cross only at crosswalks—never between two parked cars! Make sure they stay away from powerlines, and fly kites only in wide open spaces.

Children should know by heart their address and home phone number. Also, teach them how to Call 9-1-1, or your local emergency number, for any emergency. Teach your children to be alert to strangers, and never to go with spmeone they don't know.

#### In the Car

Buckle your children's seatbelts, and make sure their seatbelts stay buckled. If using a special car seat for a child, follow manufacturer's instructions and make sure the car seat is properly and tightly belted in. For maximum safety, children's car seats should always be installed in the back seat!