

Introduction Letter to Parents

Dear Parent or Caregiver:

Each year hundreds of people die in home fires in Canada and thousands are injured, some so badly they are disfigured for life. There are many ways we can act to reduce the awful toll of home fire, but every one of those ways starts with an understanding of the hazards that create fires and the safe behaviours that can prevent fires or protect us if fire occurs.

I want your child to know how to be fire safe, so I am committed to teaching fire safety. Our class will be studying ways to prevent fires and what to do in a fire through the "Learn Not to Burn" program produced by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

In addition to classroom activities, this program involves home activities you can do as a family. These home activities will help your child spot hazards in your home and teach fire safety to your entire family. But I need your support. Please discuss the fire safety behaviours presented at school and work as a family to complete the activities sent home. All material is available online at NFPA Learn Not to Burn Program.

Fire safety education is the key to saving life and property from fire. Proof that it works can be seen in the hundreds of success stories reported to NFPA by fire fighters, parents, and teachers. Many of these true stories tell of children who saved a life because they knew what to do in a fire situation. Here is one story documented from Brandon:

In 2018, Tiffany became a hero!

That day, Tiffany was home babysitting her younger brother when there was an accidental fire in the microwave. Tiffany acted quickly and got herself and her brother outside to a safe place to call 911. Brandon Fire and Emergency Services responded and commended Tiffany on her quick thinking to avert a catastrophe. But how did she know what to do? Tiffany's answer: "I learned it in school." Tiffany was a student at Betty Gibson School and had taken part in the Learn Not to Burn® program.

Fire Safety Lessons

Preschool:

- Firefighters are Community Helpers
- When You Hear a Smoke Alarm, Get Outside and Stay Outside
- Practice a Fire Drill with Your Family

- Stay Away From Hot Things
- Tell a Grown-up if You See Matches and Lighters

Kindergarten:

- Smoke Alarms are Important
- Get Outside, Stay Outside
- Fire Drills at School
- Stay Away from Hot Things
- Matches and Lighters are for Grown-ups
- Firefighters are Community Helpers

Grade One:

- Smoke Alarms are Important
- Get Outside, Stay Outside
- Report an Emergency
- Stay Away from Hot Things
- Fire Drills at School
- Know When to Stop, Drop, and Roll

Grade Two:

- Smoke Alarms are Important
- Plan and Practice Your Home Fire Drill
- Report an Emergency
- Stay Away from Hot Things
- Kid-Free Zones at Home
- Know When to Stop, Drop, and Roll