

## Lesson Activity 2: Home Safety Checklist

Preventing fires in your home requires a little homework. This task of inspecting your house will take approximately 10 minutes. Please place a check mark on each line that applies to your household.

### Kitchen:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Does a grown-up always stay in the kitchen when food is cooking?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Are stove tops and counters clean and uncluttered?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Are there pot holders within reach of the stove?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Are pot handles turned inward so that they can't be bumped?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Are curtains and other things that can burn well away from the stove?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Is there a "kid free" zone of three feet around the stove when grown-ups are cooking?

### Heating Safety:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Are portable space heaters always turned off when adults leave the room or go to sleep?
- \_\_\_\_\_ If space heaters are used in your home, are they at least three feet away from anything else that can burn including people, furniture, and pets?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Does your fireplace have a sturdy screen to catch sparks?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Has your chimney been inspected and cleaned during the past year?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Has your furnace been serviced by a professional in the past year?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Are propane tanks and other fuels stored outside your home?

### Electrical Safety:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Are extension cords used safely? (Are they not under carpets or across doorways?)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Are electrical cords in good condition, without cracks or frayed areas? (A grown-up should unplug lamps and appliances before inspecting cords.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Are kitchen appliances – such as the coffee-maker, toaster ovens, and microwave – plugged into separate receptacle outlets?

### Smoke Alarms/Home Fire Escape:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Does your home have working smoke alarms on every floor and inside or near all sleeping areas?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Are the batteries working in all your smoke alarms? (A grown-up should help by pushing the test button to find out.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you change your batteries during the time changes when you change your clock? (Fall back; spring forward)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Are all the exits in your home clear of furniture, toys and clutter?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Does your family have a home fire escape plan that includes two exits, usually a door and a window from each room?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Has your family picked a safe place to meet outside after you exit your home?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have you and your family practiced a home fire drill within the last six months? (Why not do one tonight?)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you know the fire department's emergency phone number (which should be called from a neighbor's or a nearby phone once you get outside)?