



Jackson Fire Department

Preparing your Students for the Fire Safety House

Ensuring sufficient support for the Fire Safety House visit

Additional help may be needed on the day of the fire safety trailer visit to assist firefighters in keeping order and to escort students to and from learning stations. To ensure that adequate support is available, secure the agreement of several parent volunteers to help on the day of the visit.

Preparing your students for the Fire Safety House visit

Use the information included in this letter to discuss the upcoming visit with your class.

1. Have your class develop a list of fire safety questions they have for the firefighter and send them in advance or bring them with you.
2. You may want to incorporate fire safety topics, such as common fire hazards, cooling a burn, smoke alarms, home escape plans, calling 9-1-1, and the fire tetrahedron, into some of your existing science, language arts, or social studies classes.
3. Send home the enclosed parental consent form.
4. Advise students to wear comfortable athletic clothing, such as sweatpants and t-shirts, for touring the fire safety trailer.
5. The fire safety trailer visit is an excellent public relations experience for your school. You may want to contact the local TV stations and newspapers to see if they would be interested in covering the event.
6. Take time to discuss with your class proper behavior during the fire safety trailer demonstration. Safety is very important and the directions given by the firefighter must be followed to ensure no students get hurt during the event.
7. Identify a safe, soft area (e.g., gym with gym mats, grassy area, etc.) that can be used for the demonstration portion (i.e., Stop, Drop and Roll) of the tour.
8. Please contact the fire department if you have any questions about the trailer or visit. It is best to discuss any concerns or issues regarding your students prior to the event.

The Fire Safety House tour overview

Objective: The students will participate in the fire safety trailer tour and demonstration conducted by local firefighters. The tour will provide students with the opportunity to practice the skills they learn from the lesson plans in the trailer.

Time: 45-60 minutes (varies depending on size of group)

Procedures:

- Review rules for proper behavior and safety during the tour and demonstration.
- Work with the firefighter to divide your class(s) into groups of 10–25, so there will be 2 groups total. One group will tour the fire safety trailer, and the other group will remain in the classroom and work on a small group activity or eat lunch. The groups will rotate through the activities until each student has participated in each activity.

Follow-up extender activities

1. Discuss the fire safety house visit and what they learned. Encourage creative writing experiences.
 2. Cover the walls, halls and any other exposed areas with fire safety posters, drawings, and artwork done by your students. Compile any stories and drawings done by your students into a class fire safety book.
 3. Write thank-you cards or letters to the firefighters.
 4. Invite parents to give feedback on whether or not there was family involvement or participation in any of the activities that were sent home.
 5. Have your students help to prepare another class for their tour of the fire safety trailer.
 6. Several weeks after the tour, test your students on fire safety.
 7. Encourage the students to recall the experience of the fire safety trailer and what they learned either orally or through a writing activity.
 8. As you go through your science and social studies curriculum, refer back to the fire safety program whenever appropriate. Examples are: lessons on community helpers, how to respond to emergencies, properties of matter, electricity as related to causing fires, operating smoke alarms, etc.
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