



## Sound Off with the Home Fire Safety Patrol Activity 1 Video 1 Lesson Plan: SAFETY SOUNDS

### INTRODUCTION

This Lesson has five learning activities:

- Storybook
- Video 1: Safety Sounds!
- Activity Sheet 1: Sound Off with the Home Fire Safety Patrol
- Shout Out Game
- Digital Whiteboard: Smoke Alarm Smarts

You and the teacher will choose how to present these to best meet the needs of the students and to use your time in the classroom wisely. **Video 1: Safety Sounds!** is essential. Build your lesson with the Video and Activity Sheet as the main events, supported by some or all the other learning activities.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

This Lesson will help students:

- Recognize the Home Fire Safety Patrol and understand the word “patrol” – a group that watches over an area to make sure everything is safe
- Identify the two smoke alarm sounds and what they mean
  - BEEP-BEEP-BEEP – means fire or smoke – get out fast
  - CHIRP – means a smoke alarm needs a new battery or to be replaced
- Identify the different levels of a home: e.g., basement, main floor/first floor, upstairs/second floor
- Identify where people sleep in their home (not always in a bedroom – this could be on the sofa, on an air mattress in the basement, or on a cot or other place)
- Identify where to install smoke alarms – on every level, in every room where people sleep, and outside every sleeping area
- State how often smoke alarms should be tested (once a month) and who should test them (grown-ups)

## GOAL FOR THE PRESENTER

The most important outcome of this Lesson — and the most important role of the firefighter in the classroom — is to make sure students are motivated and **EXCITED** to act as members of the Home Fire Safety Patrol by testing their families' smoke alarms with a grown-up using the Activity Sheet (their homework assignment).

## WHAT YOU WILL NEED FOR YOUR PRESENTATION

- Your preferred version of the *Join the Home Fire Safety Patrol* Storybook in the language appropriate for your student group (Spanish or English). All digital versions of the Storybook are available at [ymiclassroom.com/sound-off-storybooks](https://ymiclassroom.com/sound-off-storybooks), or you may prefer to use a printed booklet (regular or mini-size)
- Copy of the Storybook Lesson Plan at: [https://ymiclassroom.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/so\\_storybook-lesson-plan.pdf](https://ymiclassroom.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/so_storybook-lesson-plan.pdf)
- Access to Sound Off **Video 1: Safety Sounds!** at:
  - English: [ymiclassroom.com/video/sound-off/so21\\_videos/so21\\_video1.html](https://ymiclassroom.com/video/sound-off/so21_videos/so21_video1.html)
  - Spanish: [ymiclassroom.com/video/sound-off/so21\\_videos/so21\\_video1-sp.html](https://ymiclassroom.com/video/sound-off/so21_videos/so21_video1-sp.html)
  - (Note: This video includes loud sounds – make sure the teacher is aware in case some students are sound-sensitive.)
- Copy of this Lesson Plan, *Safety Sounds!*
- Enough copies for all students of Activity Sheet 1: Sound Off with the Home Fire Safety Patrol downloadable at:
  - English (Standard version): [ymiclassroom.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/so22\\_act1-std.pdf](https://ymiclassroom.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/so22_act1-std.pdf)
  - English (Simplified version - 2 sheets): [ymiclassroom.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/so22\\_act1a-sim.pdf](https://ymiclassroom.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/so22_act1a-sim.pdf) and [ymiclassroom.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/so22\\_act1b-sim.pdf](https://ymiclassroom.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/so22_act1b-sim.pdf)
  - Spanish (Standard version): [ymiclassroom.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/so22\\_act1-std-sp.pdf](https://ymiclassroom.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/so22_act1-std-sp.pdf)
  - Spanish (Simplified version - 2 sheets): [ymiclassroom.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/so22\\_act1a-sim-sp.pdf](https://ymiclassroom.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/so22_act1a-sim-sp.pdf) and [ymiclassroom.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/so22\\_act1b-sim-sp.pdf](https://ymiclassroom.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/so22_act1b-sim-sp.pdf)
  - NOTE: Ask the teacher beforehand which version would be better for students and their families. The Standard version is for Grade 2-3 students who read at grade level; the Simplified version has larger type and is easier to read.
  - NOTE: Print out or photocopy the Activity Sheets on bright colored paper so that they stand out from other materials going home with students.
- Printed copy of the Sound Off Wall Poster for Classroom (included in the Teaching Kit mailed to schools; ask the teacher to hang the wall poster where students will see it)
- 2 First Alert smoke alarms for demonstration: one with a working battery and one with no battery
- Audio files of the two smoke alarm sounds and the CO alarm sound, available for playback or download at: [ymiclassroom.com/so-audio-files](https://ymiclassroom.com/so-audio-files)

## OPENING – Join the Home Fire Safety Patrol Storybook

1. Briefly introduce yourself and the name of your fire department.
2. Tell students that you want them to become part of the Home Fire Safety Patrol. Explain that a “patrol” is a group of people that watches over an area to make sure everything is safe.
3. Share the Sound Off Storybook with the students (using your preferred version).
4. When you have finished telling the story, hold up the smoke alarm with a battery. Tell students that to become part of the Home Fire Safety Patrol they first need to know what this is. Ask:  
  
Q: Can anyone tell me what this is?  
A: A smoke alarm  
  
Q: What does a smoke alarm do?  
A: It tells us when there is smoke from a fire nearby.
5. Say: Smoke alarms are very important. They warn us if there is a fire so we can get outside to a safe meeting place and call 9-1-1 from there.

### VIDEO 1: SAFETY SOUNDS!

6. Say: Today our friends Pablo, Sofia, and Ana are going to tell us more about smoke alarms and the sounds they make in a video I’m going to show you now. Listen carefully. They’re going to tell us about two different sounds a smoke alarm makes and what to do when you hear those sounds.

### SHOW VIDEO 1 (4 minutes)



## AFTER THE VIDEO

7. Ask: What did you learn from Pablo, Sofia, and Ana? Let's see.

Q: What sound does a smoke alarm make when there is fire nearby?

A: BEEP-BEEP-BEEP (pause).....BEEP-BEEP-BEEP (pause)....

Q: What sound does a smoke alarm make when it needs a new battery or needs to be replaced with a new smoke alarm?

A: Chirp (long pause).....Chirp (long pause).....

Q: Can anyone tell me where smoke alarms should be installed (put up)?

A: On the ceiling or high on a wall.

Q: Why?

A: Because smoke goes up and will get to the alarm faster if the alarm is up high.

Q: How many smoke alarms does a home need?

A: At least one on every level (floor) of your home, PLUS one inside every bedroom and near every other place where someone sleeps.

Q: Why?

A: That way people will hear the alarm while they are sleeping and wake up to get outside to their meeting place fast.

Q: How often should a grown-up test every smoke alarm in your home?

A: At least once a month.

## SOUND OFF SHOUT OUT GAME

8. Next, pass out Activity Sheet 1. Ask the students to circle the smoke alarm sounds they hear on the Activity Sheet when they hear BEEP-BEEP-BEEP and CHIRP.

Push the test button on the smoke alarm you brought with you. Students should circle BEEP-BEEP-BEEP.

Play the chirp sound using the audio file available at: [ymiclassroom.com/so-audio-files](http://ymiclassroom.com/so-audio-files). Students should circle CHIRP.

Play this Shout Out Game to check the students' understanding of the different sounds a smoke alarm makes. You use words about what's happening, and students respond with the sound that goes with what you say. Explain to children that if an alarm does not make any sound when tested, that means the family needs a new alarm. For example:

You say: Fire!

Students Respond: BEEP-BEEP-BEEP... BEEP-BEEP-BEEP

You say: I need a battery!

Students Respond: CHIRP! Wait. Wait. CHIRP!

You say: I am a fire truck!  
 You say: I am a cell phone!  
 You say: I have no battery!  
 You say: There is smoke!

Students Respond: Woo Woo! (Siren sound)  
 Students Respond: with different ringtones  
 Students Respond: The class should be quiet  
 Students Respond: BEEP-BEEP-BEEP... BEEP-BEEP-BEEP

**BONUS QUESTIONS (IF TIME PERMITS)**

9. Ask students about CO alarms.

Q: At the end of the video, the children talked about another kind of alarm. Does anyone remember what it is called?

A: A carbon monoxide (CO) alarm

Q: What does a CO alarm do?

A: It warns us if carbon monoxide gas is in our home so we can get outside. You cannot see or smell CO but it can make you sick. You need a CO alarm to warn you to get outside into the fresh air and then call 9-1-1.

Q: What sound does a CO alarm make?

A: Four quick beeps: BEEP-BEEP-BEEP-BEEP

Play the CO Alarm sound available at: [ymiclassroom.com/so-audio-files](http://ymiclassroom.com/so-audio-files).

**ACTIVITY 1 HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT**

10. Praise the students for learning so much about smoke alarm sounds.  
 Say: Watch Video 1: *Safety Sounds!* again with your family if possible.  
 Then, work with your grown-ups to test all the smoke alarms in your home tonight.

- First, check that you have a smoke alarm on every level of your home — circle “Yes” if you do or “No” if you don't.
- Then double-check that you have a smoke alarm in every bedroom and near any other place where someone sleeps — again, circle “Yes” if you do or “No” if you don't.
- Last, have a grown-up push the test button on every smoke alarm to make sure it's working. If all your smoke alarms work, circle “Yes.” If there are any of them that don't work and you can't replace the battery or replace the smoke alarm, circle “No.”
- Bring your Activity Sheet back to class tomorrow.
- NOTE: If your department has free smoke alarms to offer families, tell the students: If you don't have enough smoke alarms in your home or have smoke alarms that don't work, my firefighter friends and I can install new ones for free if your grown-ups want them.

**Activity 1**  
**Sound Off With The HOME FIRE SAFETY PATROL!**

Smoke alarms are important. They warn you when there is a fire.

**Do you know your smoke alarm sounds?**

**BEEP**  
**BEEP**  
**BEEP**

**CHIRP**

**CHIRP**

**Test your smoke alarms every month to make sure they work.**

**Go on a fire safety patrol in your home.**

Use this chart to see the smoke alarms in your home. Ask a grown-up to help. Circle Yes or No for each question. When you finish your patrol, write your name, address, and phone number in the space provided. Then bring the chart back to class.

Do you have a smoke alarm on each level of your home? Yes No

Do you have a smoke alarm in or near every bedroom and sleeping area? Yes No

Do all of your smoke alarms work when you test them? Yes No

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Caregiver \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

**Dear Parents/Caregiver,**  
 Your child is participating in a home fire safety program at school. As part of this program, we are providing free smoke alarms to families that need them. Please contact your child's teacher or your local fire department for further information. Remember: Smoke alarms do not last forever. Replace your smoke alarms with new ones every 10 years.

\*Advertisement subject to change.

Logos for MTH, Fire Department, and YMC are visible at the bottom.

11. Ask students if they have any questions about the homework assignment. Respond to questions, then thank the students and the teacher for inviting you to visit their class. Let them know that you'd be thrilled to have them visit your fire station sometime!

**Sound Off Digital Activity: Smoke Alarm Smarts (IF TIME PERMITS)**

<https://ymiclassroom.com/video/sound-off/smoke-alarm-smarts.html>

12. This three-part online activity complements the video by reinforcing the importance of testing smoke alarms, showing where they should and should not be placed in a home, and challenging students to identify the home fire safety sounds.
  - For Part 1, Testing Time, ask the students to help you click on each smoke alarm to test it, drag a battery or new smoke alarm to the ones that don't work, and then re-test the ones you've fixed to be sure they are working.
  - For Part 2, Spot Check, work with the students to identify smoke alarms that are in the wrong position in a room or in a room where one should not put a smoke alarm or are missing. Move the smoke alarms to the proper locations, then test them.
  - Use this part of the Digital Activity to reinforce the meaning of "levels of a home." Ask how many levels are in the home shown in this part of the activity. (Four - one picture shows the basement) Then ask how many levels they have in their homes. Have students write the number of levels in their homes on Activity Sheet 1.
  - Next, use the illustration for Part 2 to reinforce what students have learned about installing smoke alarms. Ask:
    - Where should smoke alarms be installed? (At least one on every level of a home, including the basement, inside every bedroom, and near any other place where someone sleeps.)
    - Why do we need smoke alarms in all those places? (So everyone can hear the smoke alarm wherever they are sleeping and wherever they are in the home.)
    - Now that we've repositioned the smoke alarms, does the home in the illustration have all the smoke alarms it needs? (Yes.)
    - We've just tested all the smoke alarms in this home. When is the next time a grown-up should test them? (Next month - smoke alarms should be tested at least once a month)
  - Complete the activity with Part 3, Sound-Off Match Up. Click each of the sound icons and have students identify which picture goes with each one. Have students explain the meaning of the smoke alarm warning sound (repeated BEEP-BEEP-BEEP), the smoke alarm testing sound (one BEEP-BEEP-BEEP), the CHIRP sound, and the CO Alarm sound.
  - Finish by telling students they can play these games with their families on a tablet, laptop, or desktop computer by visiting [ymiclassroom.com/video/sound-off/smoke-alarm-smarts.html](https://ymiclassroom.com/video/sound-off/smoke-alarm-smarts.html) or on a smartphone on the Sound Off App: <https://ymiclassroom.com/lesson-plans/sound-off-app/>

## CONCLUSION

13. If you have a smartphone or tablet, show students the Sound Off Safety App. Explain that the app is free, doesn't need internet, and comes with more fun fire safety games, the *Safety Sounds!* video and three more videos they can watch with their families at home, plus the Sound Off Storybook read aloud in English or Spanish. Families can search for the Sound Off Safety App at the Apple App Store or at Google Play, and can learn more about the app at: [ymiclassroom.com/lesson-plans/sound-off-app/](https://ymiclassroom.com/lesson-plans/sound-off-app/)
14. Finally, share this link with parents and caregivers for Sound Off resources that they can use at home with their children: [ymiclassroom.com/soundoff-families](https://ymiclassroom.com/soundoff-families). This webpage has:
  - The four Sound Off videos (English and Spanish)
  - The Storybook, *Join the Home Fire Safety Patrol* (English and Spanish)
  - The Sound Off Digital Activity, Smoke Alarm Smarts (English only)
  - All Sound Off Activity Sheets used in the classroom (English and Spanish)
  - Fire Safety Tips for Families (English only)
  - Illustrated handouts on smoke alarms and CO alarms (English and Spanish)