

Dear Camp Director:

We know that keeping your campers safe and happy is your number one concern. Now, promoting fire safety and teamwork at camp has never been more fun than with this action-packed free program based on the new movie *Firehouse Dog* and brought to you by Young Minds Inspired (YMI) in partnership with Fox Home Entertainment.

Shane and his new buddy Rexx, the Firehouse Dog, will help your campers learn to sniff out fire dangers and explore what it

means to be a hero. The pair team up in this summer's new family comedy recently released on DVD and available in stores July 31. In this exciting film, pampered Hollywood pooch Rexx, is separated from his owner after an aerial stunt gone awry. Although his owner presumes him dead, Rexx is merely lost, hanging around abandoned lofts in an unfamiliar city until he is found by 12-year-old Shane played by Josh Hutcherson. With his extreme athletic abilities and diva-like demeanor, Rexx eventually wins over Shane and his Dad who is fire chief of Dogpatch, a failing fire station. In his new role as "Firehouse Dog," Rexx helps Shane and his father to strengthen their relationship and at the same time helps to save

the station from being closed down.

These fun activities for 6-to-10 year olds are designed to teach campers the basics of fire safety near the barbecue as well as around a campfire and fireworks. They also provide an enjoyable way to build camp camaraderie and teamwork.

Please reproduce this guide for each of your counselors and reproduce the activity sheets for each of your campers. Explain to your counselors how this kit can be a great way to teach safety while building teamwork and camaraderie. Please return the enclosed reply card to receive future free materials from YMI. Although the materials are copyrighted, you may copy them for educational purposes. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

Program Objectives

- To understand fire safety rules around the campfire, near a barbecue and while using sparklers.
- To identify and explain the characteristics of a hero.
- To build camaraderie and teamwork while completing these fun activities.

How to Use This Program

First, photocopy the reproducible activity sheets. Then display the wall poster in a prominent place at camp. Counselors can refer to the poster as they explain each activity to campers.

ACTIVITY 1 Fire Safety Scavenger Hunt

Introduce the movie, *Firehouse Dog*, and the topic of fire safety with a Scavenger Hunt designed to promote teamwork and get counselors and campers talking about this important subject. Have campers form two teams (a red team and a green team) to find the items listed on Activity Sheet One. Review the items first, telling campers to bring back small items but to write down or simply tell where larger items, such as fire extinguishers and hoses are located in the camp. Suggest that campers on each team work together by subdividing the items on the list among themselves.

After campers have completed the Scavenger Hunt, ask them to tell which items are related to fires and fire safety and which are not. Which things might cause a fire? Which items can be used to put out fires? How did the members of each team help each other to find the items?

FIREHOUSE DOG

ACTIVITY 2 Help Rexx, the Firehouse Dog Spot Danger

Appoint two campers per day to act as fire marshals. Reproduce the fire marshal badge on the corresponding activity sheet and affix it to the designated fire marshals with tape or a pin. Give each fire marshal a copy of the checklists

and have them inspect campfire and barbecue sites for fire hazards by answering the questions on the checklists.

For younger campers, let everyone be a fire marshal and together inspect your camp for fire hazards. As you lead campers to each campfire site and barbecue area, help them answer the questions on the checklists. Afterward, tally up the score and discuss your findings. How safe is your camp? How can hazards be corrected?

ACTIVITY 3 Everyone Is a Hero

At the beginning of the week or camp session, have campers brainstorm characteristics that make someone a hero (brave, helpful, kind, loyal, dedicated, funny, friendly etc.). Ask campers to choose a partner to observe during the week and keep track of examples and characteristics that show that he or she is a hero. At the end of the week, have campers color, cut out and attach string to the medal on the activity sheet. Then have campers use the space on the perimeter of the medal to write the heroic characteristics they observed in their partners. In a light-hearted ceremony, have campers take turns presenting their partners with the hero medals.



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Fire Safety Scavenger Hunt

In the movie *Firehouse Dog*, Rexx teams up with 12-year-old Shane to solve a mystery about fires in their neighborhood. Rexx, the Firehouse Dog also uses his keen sense of smell, which Shane says, "is 10,000 times more powerful than a human's," to rescue a person.

Be like Rexx, the Firehouse Dog and sniff out the following items from the movie. See which team is the first to either bring back the items or tell where they are located at camp.



**Which ones can help fight a fire?
Brainstorm other items that
might cause a fire.**

Items

- Flashlight
- Ax
- Hose
- Ladder
- Boots
- Fire extinguisher

- American Flag
- Walkie-talkie
- Tomato
- A pair of boy's shorts
- Skateboard
- Dog leash
- Dog collar
- The number 55
- Sunglasses
- Map
- Watch
- Mop
- Couch



- Ice cream
- Battery
- Dog food
- Beef jerky
- Water
- iPod



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Help Rexx, the Firehouse Dog Spot Danger

"Being a firehouse mascot isn't all just for show," says Shane in the movie *Firehouse Dog*. "It's a real job that requires real skills." Finding fire hazards around camp also takes skill. Walk around the camp with a counselor. As you go from one campfire and barbecue site to another, answer the questions below. For each question you answer "yes," to, give yourself a point. When you're finished, add up the points to find your score.



Campfire Safety Checklist

Yes No

- Is an adult always nearby at all campfires?
- Is there a shovel and water near all campfires?
- Are campfires at your camp small and contained inside a ring of stones, known as a campfire ring?
- Are campfires located away from litter, grass, dry leaves or other things that could catch fire?
- Are campfires put out with water and are the ashes stirred until they are cold?



Barbecue Safety Checklist

Yes No

- Are barbecue grills located outside?
- Is the grill at least three feet away from buildings, trees, shrubs or other things that will burn when cooking?
- Are matches and lighters safely put away? Are any loose matches or lighters reported to an adult immediately?
- Is the cook wearing clothing that will not catch fire (e.g. no loose clothing, such as long dangling sleeves or cooking in a towel)?
- Is lighter fluid used properly? (Lighter fluid should be added to a fire BEFORE the fire is lit. Never add fluid to an already lit fire because the flame can flash back up into the container and explode.)
- Do campers know that they should STOP, DROP and ROLL in case a piece of clothing does catch fire?
- Are hot coals disposed of properly – soaked with plenty of water, stirred to make sure that the fire is out and never placed in plastic, wooden or paper containers?



Fireworks Safety Checklist

The best way to enjoy fireworks is to attend public displays put on by professionals who know how to safely handle fireworks. If you use sparklers during summer celebrations, however, the following checklist can help you have fun and stay safe. Remember: Do not give sparklers to children under 5. They will not understand how to use them safely.

Yes No

- Are sparklers kept in a closed box in a cool dry place?
- Are pets kept away from sparklers?
- Is there a bucket of water and/or a fire extinguisher near sparklers?
- Do you always use sparklers outside?
- Do you always wear gloves when using sparklers?
- Do you always light sparklers one at a time?
- Do you always hold sparklers away from your body and at arm's length?
- Do you avoid waving sparklers near anyone else?
- Do you always stand still when you are holding a sparkler?
- When the sparkler burns out do you dip the spent end into a container of water and then throw it into the trash?

Scoring

If you answered yes to all 22 questions, congratulations, Shane and Rexx, the Firehouse Dog want you on their team!

If you answered "yes" to 18 to 22 questions, you are close to saving Dogpatch from closing. Just make a few changes and you'll easily save the fire station!

If you answered, "yes" to 11 to 17 questions, you're on the right track, but you've got some work to do to convince the mayor that Dogpatch should not be closed.

If you answered "yes" to fewer than 11 questions you have some serious work to do to save Dogpatch. You need to make many changes around your camp to keep the station open.

For all the questions you answered "no" to, make sure your camp takes the steps needed to make them a "yes" so that Shane, Rexx and Engine Company 55 can stay together.





Everyone is a Hero

In the movie *Firehouse Dog*, Shane, his father and Rexx the Firehouse Dog are honored for being heroes. What is a hero? Who is a hero in your life? Why? What has this person done?

Everyone has some hero qualities. Shane's Dad, Connor Fahey praises his son, telling him, "You're so smart, capable and strong." What other qualities do heroes have? Gather in a circle and brainstorm several qualities of a hero. Then choose a partner and name two qualities that make him or her a hero. For example, did your partner work extra hard in the Fire Safety Scavenger Hunt? Did he or she treat an opposing team member with respect?

Color and cut out the medal below. Then attach a string long enough to go around a person's neck to the medal. Hang the medal around your partner's neck. Take turns sharing the hero qualities of each partner with the group.



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FIREHOUSE DOOG



OWN IT JULY 31!

REGENCY ENTERPRISES PRESENTS A NEW REGENCY PRODUCTION A TODD HOLLAND FILM "FIREHOUSE DOG" JOSH HUTCHERSON
BRUCE GREENWOOD DASH MIHOK STEVEN CULP BILL NUNN MUSIC SUPERVISOR PATRICK HOULIHAN MUSIC BY JEFF CARDONI CO-PRODUCER MICHAEL J. MASCHIO
FILM EDITOR SCOTT JAMES WALLACE PRODUCTION DESIGNER TAMARA DEVERELL DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY VICTOR HAMMER PRODUCED BY MICHAEL COLLEARY AND MIKE WERB
WRITTEN BY CLAIRE-DEE LIM & MIKE WERB & MICHAEL COLLEARY DIRECTED BY TODD HOLLAND



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For Sequences Of Action Peril, Some Mild Crude Humor And Language.

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