

Dear Educator,

Although Fire Prevention Month is observed in October, fire safety is a year-long concern. Fires know no seasons. In fact, spring is a great time to remind children (and families) about fire safety before school breaks for the summer and kids tend to spend more time at home.

This teaching kit provides tips for using The Hartford's Junior Fire Marshal® program online training materials to empower your students to become fire safety advocates over the summer and all year long. The teaching kit also includes an activity sheet that teaches students how to make a home escape plan, as well as a take-home letter for families.

We hope that you will share this teaching kit with all K-3 teachers and parents at your school. Please also share your thoughts about the program by visiting www.ymiclassroom.com/feedback-jfm. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Dr. Dominic Kinsley
Editor in Chief
Young Minds Inspired

Spring Into Safety with The Hartford's Junior Fire Marshal® Program

Target Audience

Students in grades K-3 and their families

About The Hartford's Junior Fire Marshal® Program

Every 93 seconds – about a minute and a half – a home fire is reported in America.* That's why, for more than 70 years, The Hartford has been dedicated to teaching children how to prevent fires and what to do if they face one. More than 111 million kids have been deputized through The Hartford's Junior Fire Marshal® program. Your students can be next!

The Junior Fire Marshal® program features a 25-minute student training video, along with in-depth lessons that cover these four important safety topics:

- Matches and Lighters Are for Grown-Ups
- Smoke Alarms Are Important
- Create and Practice Your Escape Plan
- Establish Your Outside Meeting Place

Teachers must register to access the training video, but registration is free and gives you access to all the educational materials on the Junior Fire Marshal website. (Visit www.juniorfiremarshal.com/register to sign up.) As an option to reinforce the messages, you can follow up the training video with the short companion activity in this teaching kit, or with the four extended lessons available at the Junior Fire Marshal Training Academy (www.juniorfiremarshal.com/for-educators). There is an online module for distance learning situations as well.

We encourage you to choose the option that meets your class needs so that your students can become Junior Fire Safety Marshals and master the tools they need to practice fire safety for life. You can even order free fire helmets for your class from the registration page after viewing the video.

How to Use This Program

This program includes an activity sheet and a family take-home letter designed to supplement the Junior Fire Marshal training video with a short fire safety unit focused on escape planning. Download, copy, and distribute the sheets, or share the PDFs through your school's digital platform if you're connecting with students remotely. Students will need pencils, crayons, or markers to complete the activity sheet on paper. Have students take the completed sheet home to share the messages with their families. We also encourage you to send home copies of the

family letter or include a link to the PDF in an email to families so that they can explore the Junior Fire Marshal program with their children.

Activity:

A Junior Fire Marshal's Escape Plan

Ask students to share what they know about fire safety. Then have them watch the 25-minute Junior Fire Marshal training video found at www.juniorfiremarshal.com/register. (As a reminder, you will need to register for this free resource.)

After viewing and discussing the video as a class, pass out the activity sheet. Tell students that as they saw in the video, one of the most important ways to help keep ourselves safe from fire is to create and practice a home fire escape plan. In this activity, they will look at an escape map and then create an escape plan for their family. Teachers of students in grades K and 1 may want to work through the activity directions together as a class.

Answer Notes: All rooms except the bathroom and kitchen should have a smoke alarm. Students should mark at least one door and one window out of each room. The tree is the family's outdoor meeting place.

Have students take their escape plans home and remind them to share the take-home letter with their families to help parents and caregivers reinforce fire safety messages over the summer.

Resources

The Hartford's Junior Fire Marshal Program:

www.juniorfiremarshal.com

Junior Fire Marshal Training Video on demand:

www.juniorfiremarshal.com/register

The Junior Fire Marshal's Educator site:

www.juniorfiremarshal.com/for-educators

YMI JFM microsite:

www.ymiclassroom.com/lesson-plans/jfm/

*Source: National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)
www.nfpa.org/~media/fdo144a044c84fc5baf90c05c04890b7.ashx



For questions, contact us toll-free at 1-800-859-8005 or by e-mail at feedback@ymiclassroom.com

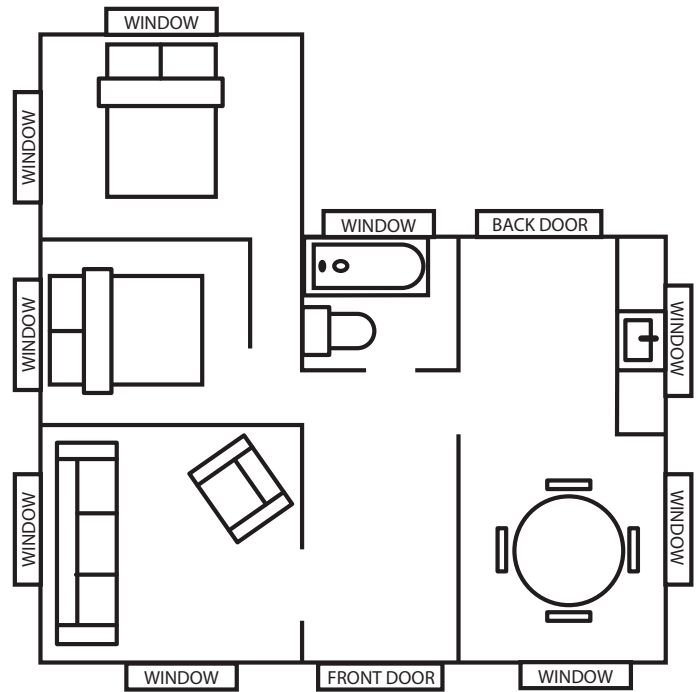
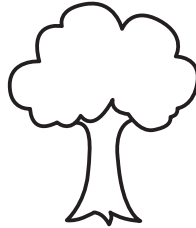
Learn more at www.juniorfiremarshal.com/register

A Junior Fire Marshal's Escape Plan

Part 1: A Safe House

Look at the map of the house at right. Think about what you learned from the training video, and follow these fire safety steps:

1. Draw small circles in the rooms where there should be smoke alarms.
2. Find at least two ways out of each room in the home. Mark them with arrows pointing outside.
3. The house number is 123. It should be on the front of the house. Write the number by the front door.
4. Draw a square around an outdoor meeting place away from the home and in front of the home.



House number on front door: _____

Part 2: Your Escape Plan

Now, make a plan for *your* home! On a separate sheet of paper, draw a map of your home. Show all the rooms and all the doors and windows. Draw arrows to show how you will leave each room if you hear a smoke alarm. Draw a square around your outdoor meeting space.

Then, take the lead as a Junior Fire Marshal® and talk about your plan with everyone in your home. Show them your drawing. With the grown-ups in your home:

- Visit each room in your home and find two ways out.
- Test all windows and doors to see if they open easily.
- Make sure your home has smoke alarms where they are needed. Push the test button to make sure each alarm is working.
- Pick a place outside where everyone will meet. It should be in front of your home.
- Make sure your home or building number can be seen from the street.
- Learn the emergency phone number for your fire department.
Write it here: _____
- Practice your home fire escape plan at least two times a year.



Family Fire Safety with The Hartford's Junior Fire Marshal® Program

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Your child has been learning about fire safety in class through materials provided by The Hartford's Junior Fire Marshal® program and the curriculum experts at Young Minds Inspired. They have completed a classroom activity that focuses on how to create an escape plan, and watched a training video that explains other important aspects of fire safety, including these four key topics:

1. Matches and Lighters Are for Grown-Ups

Fire prevention starts with fire safety basics. Teach your children that matches and lighters start fires. If they see matches or lighters, they should not touch them. They should tell a grown-up about it.

Fire Safety Tip! Place matches and lighters out of the reach of children.

2. Smoke Alarms Are Important

There should be a working smoke alarm on every level of your home (including the basement) and inside every room where people sleep. All family members should know what the smoke alarm sounds like and what to do when they hear one. Test your alarms with your child and review what to do if the alarm goes off.

Fire Safety Tip! Follow your smoke alarm manufacturer's instructions for changing the batteries and replacing alarms. If batteries are to be changed twice a year, change the batteries when the clocks change in the fall and spring. And remember: Test your smoke alarms once a month. If you do not hear the alarm sound, install new batteries or replace the alarm.

3. Create and Practice Your Escape Plan

Everyone in your home should help create an escape plan and practice it regularly. Walk through your home together, inspect possible exits, and identify two ways out of every room. Remember to go low, go under smoke, and get out fast if there is a fire!

Fire Safety Tip! Look at the activity sheet your child brought home to help you create your own escape plan. Practice your plan at least twice a year — once in the fall, and once in the spring.

4. Establish Your Outside Meeting Place

Choose an outside meeting place that is a permanent location a safe distance from your home — such as a streetlight, tree, or neighbor's home. Mark the location on your escape plan map. Everyone should go to the meeting place in an emergency. Teach your child never to go back inside a home that's on fire.

Fire Safety Tip! Review your meeting place from time to time to make sure it's still suitable.

Additional Safety Tips

Fire safety is something that should be reviewed continuously throughout the year, and it's very important that the whole family is involved. For more information to help keep your family safe, visit The Hartford at www.juniorfiremarshal.com/for-parents to download the Family Fire Safety Guide and review the Fire Safety Checklist.



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