Sound Off with the Home Fire Safety Patrol  
Activity 2 - Video 2 Lesson Plan: HOME FIRE DANGERS

INTRODUCTION

This Lesson has three learning activities:

- Video 2: Home Fire Dangers
- Activity Sheet 2: Detect the Dangers
- "I Spy with My Safety Eye" Game

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 2: Home Fire Dangers 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:

- Identify six common home fire dangers and work with a grown-up to correct each danger, as follows:
  1. A chirping smoke alarm: Ask a grown-up to put in a new battery or install a new smoke alarm.
  2. A candle burning near curtains: Ask a grown-up to blow out the candle and move it away from the curtains.
  3. A lighter left on a table: Remind a grown-up that lighters need to be locked away and out of the reach of children.
  4. An overloaded wall outlet: Ask a grown-up to remove all but 2 plugs in the outlet.
  5. A space heater near a sofa: Ask a grown-up to move the heater three big steps (three feet) away from the sofa and to turn it off when the grown-up leaves the room.
6. A stove flame burning with no grown-up in the kitchen: Ask a grown-up to turn off the stove when they leave the kitchen.

**NOTE:** These six home fire dangers have been selected based on national data that show they are the leading causes of home fires, injuries, and deaths. The six dangers have been carefully illustrated to be appropriate for 2nd and 3rd grade students, and the lesson emphasizes that a grown-up, not a child, should correct the dangers.

Please teach the lesson as prepared by Sound Off. Do not add or substitute other home fire risks unless your fire department has data that show another cause of home fires is an urgent local risk and appropriate for 2nd and 3rd grade students.

**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 to act as members of the Home Fire Safety Patrol by looking for potential fire dangers in their homes and working with a grown-up to correct any dangers they find.

**WHAT YOU WILL NEED FOR YOUR PRESENTATION**

- Copy of this Lesson Plan, *Home Fire Dangers*
- Access to Sound Off Video 2: *Home Fire Dangers* at:
  - English: ymiclassroom.com/video/sound-off/so21_videos/so21_video2.html
  - Spanish: ymiclassroom.com/video/sound-off/so21_videos/so21_video2-sp.html
- Enough copies for all students of Activity Sheet 2: Detect the Dangers downloadable at:
  - **NOTE:** Ask the teacher beforehand which version would be better for students and their families. The Standard version is for 2nd and 3rd students who read at grade level readers; 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 (included in the Teaching Kit mailed to schools; ask the teacher to hang the wall poster where students will see it)
- One or more battery-powered candles
- A duplex electrical outlet with cover plate
- A yardstick or tape measure
• An electric space heater
• A page-sized graphic or photo of a lighter and matches
• Audio files available for playback or download at ymiclassroom.com/so-audio-files

OPENING

1. Re-introduce yourself and the name of your fire department.

2. Briefly review what students learned during your first classroom visit.

3. Remind students that they are working to become part of the Home Fire Safety Patrol. Ask if anyone can explain what “patrol” means (a group of people that watches over an area to make sure everything is safe). Tell students that being part of a patrol includes being like a detective who knows how to “detect” – find – home fire dangers and how to work with a grown-up to fix them.

VIDEO 2: HOME FIRE DANGERS

4. Say: We already met our friends from the Home Fire Safety Patrol: Ana, Pablo, and Sofia. They taught us about the sounds a smoke alarm makes. Today they are going to tell us about six fire dangers we need to watch out for and what grown-ups in your family can do to fix them. Let’s get started.

SHOW VIDEO 2 (Approximately 5 minutes)

AFTER THE VIDEO

5. Ask: What was the most surprising thing you learned from Ana, Pablo, and Sofia today? Let the students share their reactions to the video.
6. Next, pass out Activity Sheet 2. Tell students they will be using the picture on the Activity Sheet to play a game called “I Spy with My Safety Eye.” You will describe a home fire danger that you see in the picture, and they will tell you what it is.

7. Say: I SPY WITH MY SAFETY EYE...something that could catch the curtains on fire because it is too close to them.

   Answer: The candle is burning too close to the curtains – they could catch on fire. And there should never be a candle burning when there is no grown-up in the room.

   Correct the danger: Grown-ups should use candles powered by batteries so there is no flame that might start a fire. Show students the battery-powered candles you brought with you. Show the batteries inside the candle. Turn the candle on and pass it around the classroom so the students can turn it off and on.

   If a grown-up uses a real candle with a flame, they should blow it out when they leave the room. There should always be a grown-up in any room where a candle is burning. And grown-ups should always make sure a lit candle is far away from anything that can burn – including people and pets.

8. Say: I SPY WITH MY SAFETY EYE...something that should be put in a safe place with a lock.

   Answer: A lighter is on the table where a child can find it.

   Correct the danger: Grown-ups should always keep lighters and matches locked away and out of reach of children. Hold up or pass around the illustration of a lighter and matches that you brought with you. Ask students to suggest places where they could be locked away in their homes.

   WARNING: Do not bring a real lighter or matches into school. These are hazards. Use the Activity Sheet to illustrate what a lighter looks like. Or bring a page-size graphic or photo of a lighter that you can show the class.

9. Say: I SPY WITH MY SAFETY EYE...something that is overloaded and could overheat and start a fire.

   Answer: The electrical outlet has too many cords plugged into it.

   Correct the danger: Remind a grown-up to put only one plug in each outlet space. Hold up or pass around the electrical outlet that you brought to class, pointing out the two
outlet spaces. Emphasize that to be safe, grown-ups should put only one plug into each of the two outlet spaces.

10. Say: I SPY WITH MY SAFETY EYE...something a grown-up should move three big steps (or 3 feet) away from things that can burn.

   Answer: The space heater is too close to the sofa – the sofa could catch on fire. And the space heater should never be on when there is no grown-up in the room.

   Correct the danger: Space heaters need space. Ask a grown-up to keep the heater at least three big steps (3 feet) away from things that burn. Set the portable electric space heater you brought with you near a piece of classroom furniture and use the yardstick/tape measure to show how far it should be from anything that can burn – including furniture, people, or pets. Have students pace off three big steps to gauge the distance.

   In addition, families should only use a space heater when there is a grown-up in the room to watch it carefully. A grown-up should always turn off and unplug a space heater when they leave the room and when everyone goes to sleep.

11. Say: I SPY WITH MY SAFETY EYE...something a grown-up should always stand next to and watch carefully when it is being used.

   Answer: The stove is on when there is no grown-up in the room.

   Correct the danger: Remind grown-ups to turn off the stove before they leave the kitchen.

   Here's a safety saying to help your grown-ups prevent this fire danger: "Keep an eye on what you fry!" When something is cooking on top of the stove, make sure a grown-up is watching it carefully. If the grown-up has to leave the kitchen, they should turn off the stove.

12. Say: This one is a little different but VERY important. I HEAR with my Safety EAR a sound that means something needs to be fixed or replaced right away. (If possible, hold up a smoke alarm and play the CHIRP sound available at ymiclassroom.com/so-audio-files.)

   Answer: The smoke alarm is chirping.

   Correct the danger: Install a new battery or get a new smoke alarm.

   That CHIRP sound means the smoke alarm needs a new battery or needs to be replaced. A grown-up should replace the battery or get a new smoke alarm right away.

Q: Remember, what should you do to fix any of these problems?
A: Get a grown-up to help!
BONUS QUESTIONS (IF TIME PERMITS)

13. Ask the students:

Q: Can you think of any other things in your home that can get hot enough to burn someone or start a fire? What can you do to stay safe from these dangers?

A: Students might name a barbeque grill; food that gets too hot on the stove, in the oven, in a toaster, or in a microwave; a curling iron; a clothing iron; hot water in the sink or bathtub/shower; a fireplace or woodstove; hot coffee, soup, etc.

ACTIVITY 2 HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT

14. Praise the students for learning so much about home fire dangers. Say: Watch the Home Fire Dangers video again with your family if possible. Then use your Activity Sheet to patrol for home fire dangers in your home. See if you and your grown-up can detect any of the fire and burn dangers in the picture, or any other dangers. Ask a grown-up to fix any fire dangers you find to help keep everyone safe from fire and burns.

NOTE: The Standard version of this Activity Sheet includes a fill-in-the-blank quiz to reinforce students' understanding of the six fire dangers. You can encourage students to complete this part of the activity at home with their family or ask the teacher to present it as a language arts exercise.

CONCLUSION

15. Ask students if they have any questions about the lesson. Respond to questions, then thank the students and the teacher for inviting you to visit their class. Let them know that you'd be happy to visit their homes and help their family find and fix any fire dangers.

16. If you have a tablet or laptop, show students the Digital Activity Smoke Alarm Smarts. If the classroom has access to a Digital Whiteboard, the teacher can use it to guide students through the three parts of this activity. Or students can share the activity with their family at home on a tablet, desktop computer, or smartphone by visiting: ymiclassroom.com/video/sound-off/smoke-alarm-smarts.html or on the App: ymiclassroom.com/lesson-plans/sound-off-app/

17. 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 Home Fire Dangers 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/
18. 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. 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)