

Video 4: Home Fire Drills

Guide for Teachers and Families

Objectives

- Motivate families to plan and practice home fire drills
- Provide families with resources to help them plan and practice home fire drills
- Document the number of home fire drills completed. Share the information with your Sound Off State Team or Local Team if applicable.

Components

Digital resources available at ymiclassroom.com/sound-off:

- Video 4: *Home Fire Drills*
- Reproducible take-home activity sheet, “How to Plan and Practice a Home Fire Drill” (in English and Spanish)
- Reproducible Sound Off certificate for students (in English and Spanish)*

Introduction

This take-home activity builds on Activity 3, “My Home Fire Escape Map,” by encouraging families to conduct a home fire drill. (If students have not completed Activity 3, you can show the *Home Fire Escape Map* video and ask them to work with a grown-up to draw a similar map for their home. They can display their map on the refrigerator where everyone can see it.)

Prepare students for the take-home activity by watching and talking about the *Home Fire Drills* video in class. Then give each student a copy of the take-home activity sheet. This outlines the steps to plan and practice a home fire drill. Point out to students that the activity sheet has a form at the bottom for families to fill out. The form asks if the family completed a home fire drill and how long it took them to get outside. Explain that each student will receive a Sound Off certificate when they bring this form back to class.*

How to Use the Home Fire Drills Video

- You can show the *Home Fire Drills* video immediately after students complete their escape maps in Activity 3 if you have time. Or you can show it the next day.

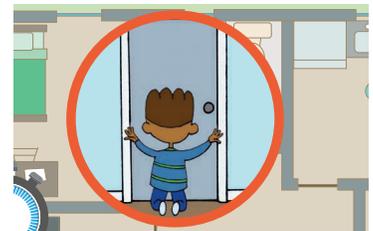


- After they watch the video, ask students the following questions to reinforce their understanding of home fire drills. Answers are provided.



1. Why do families need a home fire escape map?
 - **To plan and show two ways out of every room** in case there's a fire and to show where to go when you get outside — your family's **outside meeting place**.
2. Tyler's family used their home fire escape map to have a home fire drill. Why is it important to have a home fire drill?
 - **So everyone knows how to get outside fast** if there's a fire.
3. How fast should families be able to get outside during a home fire drill?
 - **In less than 3 minutes**.
4. How did Tyler's family start their home fire drill?
 - **Everyone went to their bedrooms. Then Tyler's dad pushed the smoke alarm test button** as the signal to get outside fast.

5. Tyler didn't run out of his bedroom as soon as he heard the alarm. He first practiced how to tell if there is fire or smoke on the other side of a door. How did he do this?



- **He felt the doorknob and the cracks around the door** with the back of his hand. They would feel warm if there were a fire on the other side of the door.
 - **He looked at the cracks around the door** and at the bottom of the door for signs of smoke on the other side of the door.
6. What should you do if you think there is fire or smoke on the other side of a closed door?
 - **Do not open the door.**
 - **Leave the door closed and use your second way out** of the room.
 - **If you can't use your second way out, stuff something like a blanket under the bottom of the door** to keep the smoke out.
 - **Kneel or stand by a window and wave a flashlight or something white** like a t-shirt so the firefighters can see you and get you out.
 7. Why did Tyler bend down before he opened the door?
 - **He was checking to be sure there was no smoke blocking his path** down the hallway.
 - **In a fire, smoke is more dangerous than the flames. But**

smoke rises to the ceiling, so you can stay safe if you Get Low and Go. This means you should bend over as you walk to your exit and stay low in case there is smoke. Do not crawl.

8. Why did Tyler close the door behind him?
 - To help stop smoke, heat, and fire from spreading.
9. How did Tanya get outside?
 - Their dad came to her room and carried her outside.
 - Sometimes little kids do not hear the smoke alarm and they need a grown-up's help to get outside safely.
10. Who else might need help getting outside?
 - Older people and people who can't hear the alarm or who may not be able to walk or move quickly.
11. Why is it important to have an outside meeting place?
 - When everyone meets at the same place, you know that they are safe outside.
12. What did Tyler's family do when they got to their outside meeting place?
 - His mom used her cell phone to pretend to call 9-1-1 to report the fire and give them their address.
 - If you don't have a cell phone or can't grab one quickly on the way out, borrow a neighbor's phone to report the fire.
13. In a real fire, what should the family do after they call 9-1-1?
 - Stay at their outside meeting place until the firefighters arrive. They should never go back inside their home until the firefighters tell them it is safe. The best rule is **Get Out and Stay Out**.



- Remind students that the video presented seven important rules that you will help them review now. Read each sentence below. Say "blank" when you get to the underlined word. Finish the sentence and ask students to fill in the missing word.
 - If you hear a smoke alarm or see smoke, get out as **fast** as you can. Use your home fire escape map.
 - Don't take **anything** with you — except for a cell phone if a grown-up can grab it quickly.
 - If you see smoke as you are escaping, **Get Low and Go**. Bend down low, close to the floor where the air is safer to breathe.
 - Close all **doors** behind you.
 - Go to your outside **meeting** place.
 - Call **9-1-1**. Give the firefighters your home **address**.
 - Never go back inside a burning **building**. Always wait at your meeting place for the firefighters. They'll know what to do.

- Explain to students that, like Tyler and his family, they can practice a home fire drill with their families using what they learned in the video.

How to Use the Take-Home Activity Sheet

- Fill in the due date before making copies of the activity sheet for each student.
- Give each student a copy of the activity sheet. Explain that it is for the grown-ups in their family to use when they plan and practice a home fire drill. Point out the form at the bottom where their family should check the box to show whether they completed a home fire drill. They can also write in the number of minutes it took them to get to their outside meeting place.
- Have students take the sheet home. Alternatively, you can email a copy of the activity sheet to each family and/or post it on your class site.
- Ask students to bring their completed Home Fire Drill activity sheets back to class by the due date so you can tell your local firefighters how many families completed home fire drills through the Sound Off program.

Sound Off Completion Certificate

Give a copy of this certificate to every student at the end of the program (even if you or some of your students did not complete every part of the program.) Fill in each student's name and add your signature in the spaces provided. If possible, arrange for a local firefighter to sign as well.

Call students individually to the front of the class to receive their certificates. Point out that the certificate has a space for students to draw a picture of their family at their outside meeting place. There is also a calendar their grown-ups can use to set dates for conducting two home fire drills each year and a date to test their smoke alarms every month. Have students take the certificate home to celebrate their work and to serve as an important safety reminder for the family.



How to Plan and Practice a Home Fire Drill

Dear Family,

Your child has learned a lot about home fire safety with *Sound Off with the Home Fire Safety Patrol*. We hope you have, too! Now it is time for the most important step: to practice what your family will do if a fire starts in your home. A home fire drill takes only a few minutes but it could save your lives!

Here are the steps to doing a home fire drill with your loved ones:

1. Watch the Sound Off Home Fire Drills video at ymiclassroom.com/soundoff-videos. (See Video #4.)
2. Talk about your escape plan as a family. Use the checklist to the right to do your fire drill.
3. After your home fire drill, please fill in the form at the bottom of this sheet to let us know:
 - If you completed your home fire drill; and
 - How long it took you to get to your outside meeting place. (Try to do this in less than 3 minutes.)
4. Have your child bring the completed form back to school. We will give them an official *Sound Off with the Home Fire Safety Patrol* certificate.

Thank you for your efforts to keep your family safe!

Home Fire Drill Checklist

- Talk about the home fire escape map you made with your child. Remind everyone of the two ways out of every room. (Update the map if you need to make changes.)
- Remind everyone about your outside meeting place.
- Practice your first home fire drill with the lights on. Have everyone use doorways to get outside. (You should talk with a firefighter before you try a home fire drill in the dark or try to get out through windows.)
- Have a cell phone with a timer ready. The goal is to be at your outside meeting place in 3 minutes or less.
- Have all family members get into their beds with bedroom doors closed.
- Push the test button on the smoke alarm in your bedroom. That is the signal for everyone to get out fast! Start the timer and take your cell phone with you. But don't stop to take anything else.
- Practice feeling doorknobs and the cracks around doors with the back of your hand. Also practice looking for signs of smoke coming through the cracks around the door and under the door at the bottom. In a real fire, if you feel heat or see smoke, do not open the door.
- Practice "Get Low and Go" as you move through the home toward your outside meeting place. This will help you stay safe from smoke in a real fire.
- Close doors behind you.
- Stop the timer when everyone is at your outside meeting place. Write your time in the space below.
- Pretend to call 9-1-1 on your cell phone. Pretend to tell them that you have a fire and give your address. Have your children practice saying your home address too.
- Remind everyone: In a real fire, never go back inside. Stay at your meeting place and wait for the firefighters.
- Go back inside and celebrate your safety success!
- Fill in the form at the bottom of this sheet. Then cut off the form along the dotted line. Have your child bring it back to school.
- Schedule two home fire drills every year. Mark them on your calendar.



For *Sound Off* safety videos, app, and narrated storybook, all in English and Spanish, go to ymiclassroom.com/soundoff-families.

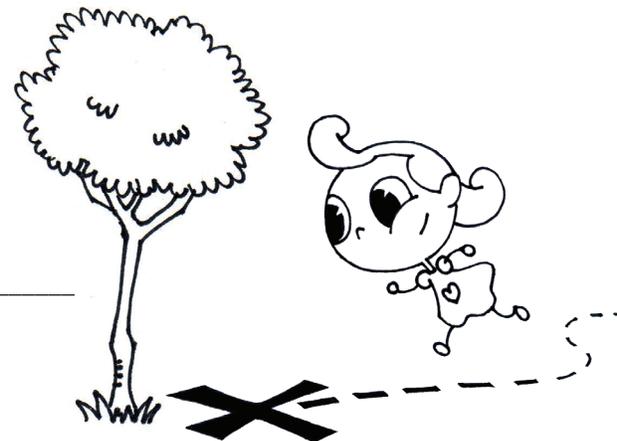
Our Home Fire Drill

Please answer the questions below, then clip off and return this slip to your child's teacher.

1. Did you complete your home fire drill? Yes No
2. How many minutes did it take you to get to your outside meeting place? _____

(Child's name)

(Parent or Caregiver's name)



Congratulations!

You are a member of the Sound Off Home Fire Safety Patrol.

You have learned and practiced important safety rules to help keep you safe from a home fire.

Student's Name

Teacher/Firefighter Signatures

SOUND OFF
with the
HOME FIRE
SAFETY
PATROL



Home Fire Safety Planner

Have a family fire drill twice a year to practice your home fire escape map. Ask a grown-up to write in the dates when your family will practice. Check the box to show that everyone got outside in less than 3 minutes.

Month _____ Date _____ We got outside in less than 3 minutes!

Month _____ Date _____ We got outside in less than 3 minutes!



Test your smoke alarms every month. Ask a grown-up to write in the date when you will test your smoke alarms each month. Put a checkmark in the right box after you finish testing your smoke alarms each month.



We test all our smoke alarms every month on the _____ date

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
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My Family at Our Outside Meeting Place

