

## A New Curriculum!

- NEW comprehensive curriculum
- 15 days of instruction
- Based on four years of research and development and more than 100 classroom implementations
- Applies principals of child development and early childhood education best practices to fire safety
- Designed for children 4 and 5 years old, but easily adapted for 1st and 2nd graders
- Links 8 fire safety messages to developmentally appropriate methods and materials
- Equips the classroom for teaching and learning with recommended materials for centers including dramatic play, manipulatives, the library and more
- Helps teachers and firefighters know what NOT to do
- Meets state learning objectives
- Take home Fire Safety pages for families
- Instructions for firefighters when visiting an early childhood classroom and hosting a fire station tour

# **Our Philosophy**

### "Children do not learn by repeating catchy phrases about fire safety"

Children can often repeat phrases like *stop*, *drop and roll*, but don't really know what they mean. Children learn through repetition - once is not enough for any fire safety message. Children learn best:

- When freely exploring and becoming an active part of their learning
- When the information is meaningful to them
- When they are allowed to choose where they want to play, how long they want to play there, and with whom they want to play
- When they discover it themselves. Not when someone "teaches" or "tells" them the information
- When they are given time to explore the materials at their own pace through creative expression

**REMEMBER!** A scared child cannot listen and cannot learn. DO NOT scare children!





#### Developed by

The Center for Early Childhood Teaching and Learning

College of Human Environmental Sciences

In partnership with

**Fire Protection Publications** 

College of Engineering, Architecture, and Technology

#### **Oklahoma State University**

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## **More Information for Teachers and Firefighters**

One new approach in this curriculum is **modifying the language** of the fire safety messages, making them more comprehensible for young children.

The curriculum also uses a **specific sequence** for teaching the messages based on how

children learn and make sense of new concepts.

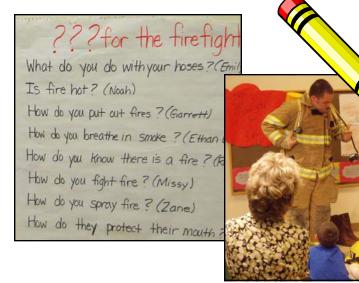
### The recommended messages listed in sequence are:

- 1. Recognize a firefighter as a helper and friend.
- 2. Stay away from hot things that hurt.
- 3. Cool a burn with cool water.
- 4. Tell a grown-up if you find matches or lighters.

  Never touch!
- 5. Stop, drop, and roll if your clothes catch on fire.
- 6. Know the sound and purpose of a smoke alarm.
- 7. Practice a fire drill using your escape map.

8. Crawl low under smoke.







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