REPORT AN EMERGENCY

LESSON PLAN

Teacher Information

• The fire department is a community helper. The firefighters will help if there is a fire or a medical emergency. Everyone in the home should know the emergency phone number to call to get help from the fire department. Most communities have 9-1-1, but some communities have a complete telephone number to call. Check with your local fire department to find out the emergency number to teach your students.

• An emergency could be a fire, a smoke alarm sounding, or someone hurt. There are many types of emergencies with which the fire department can help. Teach students that a firefighter is a helper if there is an emergency. Stress to the students that a person should only call the fire department in an emergency.

• Calling the fire department when there is no emergency can hurt someone else who might need help from the firefighters. When a person calls the emergency number, he/she should stay on the telephone until the fire department says to hang up. Tell the fire department the type of emergency you are reporting, your name, your address, and the telephone number from where you are calling. If the emergency is a fire, you should leave the home and call the fire department from a telephone outside the home, using a cell phone or neighbor’s telephone.

Teaching Points

• The fire department is a community helper.

• They will help if there is an emergency. An emergency could be a fire or it could be someone in your home who is sick or hurt. Emphasize the importance of what is an emergency – a fire or the smoke alarm sounding is an emergency. Someone who has fallen and can’t get up or someone who is very sick and needs to get to the hospital is an emergency. Scraping your knee, sneezing, breaking a toy, and being mad at mom or dad are not emergency situations.

• Remember, you only call the fire department in an emergency. Calling the fire department when there is no emergency could hurt someone who really needs the firefighters’ help.

• The number to call for our fire department is ____________________. (Check with your local fire department for the emergency number).
When the fire department answers the phone, tell them:
- The type of emergency,
- Your name,
- Your address, and
- The telephone number from where you are calling.

Stay on the telephone until the fire department tells you to hang up.

**Objectives**

The students will:

- Recite and point out the emergency phone number.
- Demonstrate how to report an emergency to the fire department.
- State when it is appropriate to call for help.

**Materials**

- “Learn Not To Burn” concept web (on transparency, whiteboard, or chart paper)
- *Impatient Pamela Calls 9-1-1* by Mary Koski
- Large “Emergency” Frayer Model chart (on transparency, whiteboard, or chart paper)
- “What Do I Say?” checklist (on transparency, whiteboard, or chart paper)
- A nonworking telephone
- Emergency Cards for sorting
- “In Case of an Emergency” activity sheet
- “Report an Emergency” and “Emergency Flyer” home-school connection letter

**Procedure**

1. Revisit the “Learn Not to Burn” concept web and explain that the next topic they will be learning about is “Report an Emergency”. Add that topic to the concept web.

2. Activate prior knowledge by asking what the students know about emergencies.

3. Explain that the children will be hearing a story about the important things you need to know to report an emergency to the fire department. During the read aloud, the children should be thinking about the different things Pamela needs to know. Read and discuss *Impatient Pamela Calls 9-1-1*.

   a. What did Pamela need to learn first? (Her address)
   b. What did Pamela want to learn to use? (The telephone)
   c. Did Pamela call 9-1-1 when the cat was in the tree? (No because her mom said the cat would get down by itself.)
   d. Did Pamela call 9-1-1 when her friend’s bicycle broke? (No because her mom said you only call when a person needs help or there is a fire.)
   e. Did Pamela call 9-1-1 when her friend Martin started to choke? (Yes)
   f. What did she tell the fire department? (Martin is choking, her address and she stayed on the telephone)
4. Explain that firefighters are community helpers who are there to help in the case of an emergency. Ask the children if they have ever had to report an emergency to the fire department like Pamela did when her friend started to choke in the story. Discuss what it means for something to be a true emergency.

5. Introduce the “Emergency” Frayer model chart and explain that they will work together to decide what is an emergency and what isn’t an emergency. As a class, create a definition that explains what an emergency is as the first step in completing the emergency chart. The definition should explain that an emergency could be a fire but also includes situations when someone is sick or hurt. The class will think of characteristics of an emergency (i.e. scary or dangerous) and record those in the corresponding section. Finally, the class will think of things that would constitute an emergency and situations that would not and record their answers on the chart. Explain that only the situations they are recording under the “emergencies” section should be reported to the fire department and that reporting situations under the “non-emergencies” section can hurt someone else who might need the help of the fire department.

6. To check for understanding, the students will complete the “Report an Emergency Activity Sheet” independently. Have the children cut the six pictures off of the bottom of the page and sort them according to emergencies and non-emergencies. Use student work as a progress monitoring assessment and refer back to the class-created “Emergency” chart to help children who are struggling to understand the difference between the two.

7. Explain to the group that they now understand what an emergency is and the next step is to learn what to do when they find themselves in an emergency. Refer back to the story Impatient Pamela when she called 9-1-1. Discuss that every community has a number to call for the fire department and display your number for the children to see. It is important to determine the correct number to provide the students, in many cases the number is 9-1-1 but it should be noted that some areas have a complete telephone number to call. Check with your local fire department to find out the emergency number to teach the children.

8. Display a large “What Do I Say?” checklist for the class to see and explain that there is information that they must give to the fire department whenever reporting an emergency. Introduce each area of the checklist (type of emergency, your name, your address, the telephone number from where you are calling). Tell the students that once they have given this information they must remain on the line until they are asked to hang up.

9. Place the Emergency Cards for sorting in a basket and call on children to come up and choose a card. Read the card aloud to the class and then have the child make a decision. Is this an emergency? If the answer is yes, have the child call the emergency number on the nonworking phone and report the emergency using all of the information on the “What Do I Say?” checklist. Role-play with the student and be sure he/she provides the important information. Have the child remain on the phone until you ask them to hang up. If the situation chosen is not an emergency have the child explain that calling the fire department over that situation could hurt someone who really needs the firefighters help.
REPORT AN EMERGENCY - ACTIVITY SHEET

Name: _____________________________________________     Date: ___________________

Cut and sort the pictures on the bottom of the page. If the picture is an emergency that you need the help of the fire department to solve, glue it under the “Emergency” side. If the picture is a problem you can solve on your own, glue it under the “Not an Emergency” side.

---

**EMERGENCY**
I need to call the fire department.

---

**NOT AN EMERGENCY**
I can solve this problem myself, or with help from a grown-up.
REPORT AN EMERGENCY - ANSWER KEY

Name: _______________________________ Date: _________________

Cut and sort the pictures on the bottom of the page. If the picture is an emergency that you need the help of the fire department to solve, glue it under the “Emergency” side. If the picture is a problem you can solve on your own, glue it under the “Not an Emergency” side.

EMERGENCY
I need to call the fire department.

NOT AN EMERGENCY
I can solve this problem myself, or with help from a grown-up.
WHAT DO I SAY? - A CHECKLIST FOR REPORTING AN EMERGENCY - ACTIVITY SHEET

Name: _________________________________________ Date: ____________________

Did I call my community fire department?
☐ Yes ☐ No

Did I give the type of emergency?
☐ Yes ☐ No

Did I give my name?
☐ Yes ☐ No

Did I give my address?
☐ Yes ☐ No

Did I give the number I am calling from?
☐ Yes ☐ No

Did I wait until they told me to hang up?
☐ Yes ☐ No
I can’t find my favorite book.

My mom is on the floor and I can’t wake her.

My dog ran away.

Mom said that I can’t go outside today.
EMERGENCY SORTING CARDS

I am home alone and scared.

My grandpa fell off the chair and can’t get up.

My aunt fell and her nose is bleeding really badly.

My home is on fire.
EMERGENCY SORTING CARDS

I am lost and can’t find my mom or dad.

My baby sister is sneezing.

My friend can’t breathe.

I have nothing to do.
EMERGENCY SORTING CARDS

My friend fell off the swing and can’t get up.

I want to play.

It’s my birthday.

A stranger is in my home.
I want to talk to someone.

There is a fire.

My friend broke his leg.

My grandma fell down and can’t get up.
I am mad at my mom.

I have a paper cut.

My friend hurt my feelings.

I want to call someone.
EMERGENCY SORTING CARDS

I want to practice calling in an emergency.

I like to push the numbers on the phone.

My friend is choking.

My cat is in a tree.
EMERGENCY SORTING CARDS - ANSWER KEY

EMERGENCY
My mom is on the floor and I can’t wake her.
I am home alone and scared.
My grandpa fell off the chair and can’t get up.
My aunt fell and her nose is bleeding really badly.
My home is on fire.
I am lost and can’t find my mom or dad.
My friend can’t breathe.
My friend fell off the swing and can’t get up.
A stranger is in my home.
There is a fire.
My friend broke his leg.
My grandma fell down and can’t get up.
My friend is choking.

NOT AN EMERGENCY
I can’t find my favorite book.
My dog ran away.
Mom said that I can’t go outside today.
My baby sister is sneezing.
I have nothing to do.
I want to play.
It’s my birthday.
I want to talk to someone.
I am mad at my mom.
I have a paper cut.
My friend hurt my feelings.
I want to call someone.
I want to practice calling in an emergency.
I like to push the numbers on the phone.
My cat is in a tree.
REPORT AN EMERGENCY

Dear Family,

Our class is learning about fire safety. Today we learned about emergencies. Your child learned about what an emergency means. We worked together to distinguish between situations that are true emergencies and situations that are problems we can solve on our own and for which we do not need the help of the fire department. We also learned the correct way to report an emergency situation.

The number in our community to call in the case of an emergency is _______________. It is important that this number be posted and readily accessible for your child to use in the case of an emergency.

Please take the time to talk to your child about the importance of using our local fire department as people who can help us when an emergency arises. Together we can keep your child safe from fire.

Sincerely,

__________________________________________

Here is a fire safety activity you can do with your child.

Make and Emergency Plan

- Create an “In Case of Emergency” flyer for your home.
- Help your child to complete the information for the flyer.
- Use the bottom half of the flyer to draw a picture of your child using the telephone to report an emergency.
- Review what would be an emergency situation.
- Post this sheet near your telephone so your child can easily access it in the case of an emergency.

Fire safety fun for families at sparky.org!
EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Emergency phone number: ________________________________

Name(s): ________________________________________________

Home address: ___________________________________________

City: _____________________________________________________

State: ____________________________________________________

Home phone number: _____________________________________