

Fire & Life Safety Education



Title: Birthday Party Fire Leaves Family Homeless

Subject: Fourth Grade Lesson Plan

Section: 4-1

Reference: National Fire Protection Association Fire Prevention Lessons, *North Carolina Common Core Standards for English Language Arts for Grade 4*

Learning Environment: Cognitive & Psychomotor

Time: 30-40 minutes

Materials:

Copies of newspaper article "Birthday party fire leaves family homeless", copies of both effective thinking charts, Highlighters, scissors, glue, paper

North Carolina Common Core State Standards

NCSS W 4.2: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

NCSS R.4.2: Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details, summarize text.

NCSS R.4.3: Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.

NCSS SL.4.1: Present information, findings, and supporting evidence such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development and style are appropriate to task, purpose and audience.

NCSS SL.4.1.c: Pose and respond to specific questions to clarify and follow-up on information and make comments that contribute to the discussion and link to the remarks of others.

NCSS SL.4.1.d: Review the key ideas expressed and explain their own ideas and understanding in light of the discussion.

Terminal Objective:

After participating in a facilitator led lesson, each fourth grade student shall identify the destructive nature of fire and identify appropriate responses to prevent fire destruction by oral or physical responses with 100 percent accuracy.

Enabling Objectives:

1. After participating in a facilitator led lesson, each fourth grade student shall identify the destructive nature of fire by oral or physical response with 100 percent accuracy.
2. After participating in a facilitator led lesson, each fourth grade student shall identify appropriate responses to prevent fire destruction by oral or physical response with 100 percent accuracy.

Preparation:

Be familiar with the article. It might be better if you cut out the pieces of the cause and effect chart and prepare an envelope or baggie with the pieces and just have the students match the cause and effect.

Enabling Objective 1

After participating in a facilitator led lesson, each fourth grade student shall identify the destructive nature of fire by oral or physical response with 100 percent accuracy.

Content

1. Ask students whether they watch the news or know anybody who has had a home fire. Discuss common causes for home fires and ways that the fires could have been prevented.
2. Distribute copies of the newspaper article "Birthday Party Fire Leaves Family Homeless" and read together as a class. Before discussing the article, have students highlight anything that catches their attention.
3. Talk about the actions taken by the Campbell family. Explain that the Campbell family needed to have a plan. Many of the problems that occurred during this emergency could have been prevented.

Enabling Objective #2

After participating in a facilitator led lesson, each fourth grade student shall identify appropriate responses to prevent fire destruction by oral or physical response with 100 percent accuracy.

4. Have students cut out and paste the cause and effect chart boxes that match up on the empty chart. Go over the chart together and discuss each rule that it addresses:
 - Clean dryer lint filter after each use.
 - Never take batteries out of smoke alarm except to replace with fresh ones.
 - Have a meeting place so everyone can be accounted for.
 - Practice your escape plan so everyone knows how to get out.
 - Make sure that exits are not blocked
 - Never call 911 from a burning house. Always call the fire department from outside the home. Get out!

5. Writing Activity: Have students rewrite article as though the Campbell family was prepared. Hopefully, James can celebrate his birthday this time!

Extension Activities:

- Have students bring in newspaper articles or TV news stories about house fires. Discuss details and how it could have been prevented.

Birthday Party Fire Leaves Family Homeless

YOUR TOWN - A local family is devastated after a birthday party meant for memories is remembered for such a tragic reason. Fire investigators say that the six members of the Campbell family were in the living room about to open birthday presents when the fire broke out around 7:30 p.m.

"There was just chaos," said 12-year old James, who was celebrating his birthday. "The fire started in the laundry room off the kitchen and we didn't know what to do."

Firefighters described the scene when they pulled up. "The home was engulfed in flames. There were family members everywhere. A few of our firefighters put their own lives



in danger when they went back in the home to look for 5-year old Vanessa. Mrs. Campbell said that Vanessa was still in the house. Our firefighters went in, only to learn later that she was hiding in her playhouse in the backyard.

According to reports, the fire started in the laundry room and quickly spread to the kitchen. The cause of the fire is still under investigation,

but it appears that an overheated clothes dryer is to blame. The family barely escaped in time because the front door was clogged by furniture. Nine-year old Thomas suffered from smoke inhalation while attempting to call 9-1-1 from the kitchen phone.

"I just feel like it's my fault that my family almost didn't make it out," said Mrs. Campbell. "The smoke alarm did not go off because the batteries had been taken out after I burned supper one night. I forgot to replace them because I didn't think that something like this could happen to my family."

The other members of the family appear to be okay. The house is a total loss, leaving the Campbell family homeless. No possessions of the family have been recovered. The Campbell family will be staying with relatives.

Effective Thinking

Cause	Effect

Effective Thinking

Cut out each box and match each cause with the effect on the blank chart.

Cause	Effect
Mrs. Campbell burned dinner that set off the smoke alarm.	Family members were everywhere. They did not know who had escaped safely.
The batteries from the smoke alarm were not replaced.	Thomas suffered from smoke inhalation because he did not get out of the home right away.
The family did not have an outside meeting place.	A fire started which quickly spread to the kitchen.
Vanessa was scared of the fire and did not know what to do.	She removed the battery from the smoke alarm.
Thomas called 9-1-1 from inside the home.	The family must live with relatives.
The front door was blocked by furniture.	The smoke alarm did not go off when there was a real fire in the home.
The house is a total loss.	She hid in the family's playhouse in the backyard.
A clothes dryer overheated in the laundry room.	The family barely escaped in time because they did not have a clear escape route.