

# Campfire Safety

## Overview

### Task Context

Students need to recognize the hazards as well as the benefits of fire. Through discussion students will be able to identify dangerous activities around campfires and list safety rules to prevent accidents.

### Expectations

<b>Grade 2</b>	<b>Grade 3</b>
2e47 • communicate messages, and follow instructions and directions;	3e50 • communicate messages, and follow and give directions for a variety of activities and events;
2e60 • participate in group discussions, demonstrating a sense of when to speak, when to listen, and how much to say;	3e51 • listen to discussions and ask questions to clarify meaning;
2p3 • outline safety rules and safe practices;	3e63 • contribute ideas appropriate to the topic in group discussion and listen to the ideas of others;
2p11 • identify safety rules to be followed in the home, school, and community (e.g., electrical safety, schoolyard rules, bus safety);	3p3 • list safety procedures and practices in the home, school, and community
2a28 • produce two- and three-dimensional works of art that communicate ideas (thoughts, feelings, experiences) for specific purposes and to familiar audiences;	3p10 • explain relevant safety procedures (e.g., fire drills, railway-crossing and crosswalk procedures);
	3a22 • produce two- and three-dimensional works of art that communicate ideas (thoughts, feelings, experiences) for specific purposes and to familiar audiences;

### Groupings

Students Working As Whole Class

Students Work in Pairs

Students Working Individually

## Notes to Teacher

Campfires generally raise children's curiosity. Many times children don't realize the potential hazards of campfires.

1. Campfires often are the focal point of activity at a camp or picnic. Encourage students to discuss safety with their parents or other adults.

2. Lightweight and nylon clothing are easily ignited or melted by sparks or flames.

Creating a safety zone

around a campfire where activity is restricted will prevent people from getting too close to the campfire.

3. Many accidents occur while children are roasting marshmallows or hot dogs on sticks or wires. Sticks or wires should be stored in a specific, safe location. Wires and sticks may still be hot. They could burn someone or ignite other combustibles if not treated carefully.

4. Campfire cooking often involves reaching over the heat and flames. Outdoor cooking should never be done alone. If an accident occurs, someone should be present to help.

## Teaching / Learning

1. Teachers ask students to remember a time when they were camping or at a picnic and had a campfire.

2. Teachers and students discuss proper uses for a campfire.

3. Discuss campfire safety.

Sample discussions questions:

*How can campfires be dangerous?*

Lead discussion to cover the following main dangers:

- Skin can be burned by flame or hot coals.
- Clothing can catch fire from flame or heat.
- Hair can catch fire.
- Fire can spread to the forest.
- Sparks can ignite a tent.

*What safety rules could keep people from getting burned by a campfire?*

List the rules on the board or on chart paper.

- Play away from a campfire.
- Don't play with the fire by poking it with sticks.
- Don't cook over the fire by yourself.
- Don't get too close to the fire (1 to 2 metres away is a good guideline).
- Let adults build the campfire (5 metres or more away from tents and shrubs, upwind from tents and shrubs).
- Let adults add wood to the campfire.
- Drown the campfire with water or bury it with dirt to make sure it is out.

*Why is it important to make sure that the campfire is extinguished?*

- Any hot coals left could start a forest fire.

4. Students record one safety rule and then read it aloud to a partner. You may wish to reinforce lessons learned on Stop, Drop and Roll for clothing fires.

5. Students put their safety rule on a piece of construction paper and add an illustration.
6. All posters are displayed throughout the room. Students who wish to share their posters may present them to their classmates.
7. Teachers arrange to have the posters on display in a public space within the school. This allows messages to be communicated and presented beyond the classroom.