Play It Safe! Stay Safe Indoors & Outdoors

Instructor Guide

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Overview

This activity provides ways to use electricity and natural gas safely.

Learning Objectives

This lesson plan meets the typical national criteria for Health in the Kindergarten and First Grade levels.

Extension Activities

Have students develop a safety checklist to conduct a safety audit at home.

What You’ll Need

Teacher Lecture Notes
Student Activity Flashcards

Steps

1. Review Play it Safe teacher lecture notes with students.
2. Use Play it Safe flashcards for student review and reinforcement.

Evaluation

Present safety concerns and ask what the student would do to make the situation safe.
Teacher Lecture Notes

Play It Safe
Be Prepared in an Emergency

We use electricity and natural gas safely everyday, but knowing what to do in an emergency or accident could save a life and your home, business or school. Remember to always tell an adult BEFORE you do anything in the case of an emergency or accident.

Stay Safe Indoors

We use electricity and natural gas safely every day in our homes, from turning on the TV or radio, switching on a light, playing video games or turning on the gas heat and cooking on a gas stove. Sometimes, however, energy can be dangerous. Overloading a circuit can cause a fire, or electric shock. Natural gas is burned, so that means there is a fire on the stove when you’re cooking.

Things to remember when using electricity at home.

- Never use a radio, TV or hair dryer when you are using the sink or are in the bathtub or shower and don’t touch anything that’s electric when your hands are wet.
- If you’re standing on a wet floor, never touch a switch or plug in anything (such as a toaster, or hairdryer).
- Never overload outlets with too many plugs and extension cords. Never pull a plug out by the cord.
- Never stick foreign objects or fingers in an outlet or socket or objects like a fork in a toaster that’s plugged in.
- Make sure cords are kept away from walking areas so you don’t trip and fall.
- Never leave small appliances or space heaters running unattended.
- If the power goes out, make sure you keep a flashlight handy to find your way around in the dark.

Things to remember when using natural gas and propane at home.

What To Do if You Smell Gas

Natural gas is odorless and colorless. When natural gas is processed an unpleasant odor similar to that of rotten eggs is added for safety. If you notice an odor of natural gas like that of rotten eggs:

- Be sure to tell an adult immediately.
- Have an adult open the windows and doors to ventilate your apartment or home.
- Leave the area and call the fire department and your gas provider.
- Do not turn on or off any lights or electrical appliances as this could spark a fire.
- If the odor is very strong, do not use your telephone - leave immediately and call the fire department and your gas provider from another phone outside your house.
Fires are always dangerous so make sure you have an adult when using a natural gas stove, oven or grill for cooking.

- Never leave paper, dishtowels or anything flammable near an open flame on your cooktop.
- Don’t play near the furnace, water heater, stove or grill.
- Never store flammable objects like boxes, rags, spray cans, gas cans, etc. around a water heater or furnace.

Play it Safe Outdoors

Being safe around electricity and natural gas or propane outdoors is being smart.

There are some very important rules to playing it safe outdoors.

- Never play near substations, transmission and power lines, or climb trees near these lines.
- If you see a power line that has fallen, STAY AWAY! Call the police or the power company right away.
- Don’t fly kites near power lines or in bad weather. Electricity or lightning could travel right down the string to you to get to the ground. Never use wire, or any metal object on your kite - they conduct electricity.
- Don’t stay in a swimming pool or lake, or around trees and poles in bad weather. You could get struck by lightning.
- Always keep radios and other electrical appliances at least 10 feet away from a swimming area. Don’t touch or go near these appliances when you are wet or standing in water.
- Always stay clear of anything that says “HIGH VOLTAGE.”
- Don’t play around or near propane or any gas tanks.
- If you hear propane leaking from a tank or smell gas (propane has the same rotten egg smell added), move away immediately and tell an adult.

Remember these safety rules and you can “play it safe” outdoors.
Activities Page - Flashcards

Play It Safe!

Can you tell what is safe and what is not safe?

Print out the following sheets and cut along the lines. Each sheet contains 4 flashcards. Show students one card at a time have students talk about each safety situation.

General Questions: What is unsafe about this picture? What can you do to make this safer?

Flashcards:

Never put your fingers or objects into an electrical outlet

Emergency 911

Bathtub: water and electronics don’t mix

Overloaded outlet

Stay away from high voltage areas

What’s that smell?

Don’t fly kites near power lines

Do not stay outdoors, near trees, or in swimming pools during a lightning storm
NO! NO! NO!

EMERGENCY!
CALL

INDOOR

DANGER!

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OUTDOOR

What's that SMELL?

DANGER HIGH VOLTAGE

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