

Introduction

This Fire Safety Big Book is part of a national fire safety programme which has been commissioned by the National Community Fire Safety Centre which is part of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister to support the teaching of fire safety and fire safe behaviour among children and their families. This book can be used as a stand-alone resource, but we recommend that it be used as a part of the Key Stage 1 programme. This includes a range of lesson plans and further activities for your pupils.

Outlined in this programme there are a set of Fire Safety Learning Objectives that have been developed by experienced fire safety educationalists to be appropriate for the age and ability of your pupils.

These key Learning Objectives have been highlighted throughout this book for your guidance. The materials also fit in with the National Curriculum relevance for PSHE and Citizenship to enable you to incorporate the programme into your schemes of work.

Your local Fire and Rescue Service Community Fire Service (CFS) Officer will be able to support you in the delivery of this programme.

The Book

The book tells the story 'Know Your Way Out!' and is aimed to be used with Key Stage 1 children (5–7 yrs). The story can be narrated by either the class teacher or the local CFS Officer. Children can also contribute to the development of the story by engaging with the pictures.

The book is designed to be used with small groups or the whole class. Key questions and teaching points have been given on the reverse of each story picture, along with Key Fire Safety Learning Objectives.

Working with the book

The relevant page narrative to accompany each story picture is provided at the top of each the teaching pages. For your reference, we have also supplied a full-length version of the story on pages 2 and 3.

Explain to the class that you are going to read a story about some children who were inside when a smoke alarm went off and that you are all going to find out what happened.

As children work through the Big Book story they will learn how to act appropriately when a fire alarm sounds. They will also learn about fire hazards and that 999 is the emergency number.

National Curriculum Relevance PSHE and Citizenship

- Developing a healthy, safer lifestyle.

3a, how make simple choices that improve their health and well-being.

3g, rules for, and ways of keeping safe, including basic road safety, and about people who can help them to stay safe.

- Developing good relationships and respecting the differences between people.

4d, that family and friends should care for each other.

Literacy

- Speaking and listening.

4a, use language and actions to explore and convey situations, characters and emotions.

1 | a, work in role.

1 | b, present drama and stories to others.

Extension work

There are four photocopiable activities to reinforce learning: story sequencing sheets; dotty captions; how to call the Fire and Rescue Service role-play script and Who Said What?

Ben has a friend round for tea

Page Narrative

It is Friday evening and Ben's friend Jake is staying for tea, and he is sleeping over for the night. The boys are very excited. Ben's mum has made some of her delicious casserole using her secret family recipe. Dad dishes up large helpings for Jake and Ben, who are both hungry after playing football in the afternoon.

Ben's mum is a nurse at the local hospital. She is busy dashing around doing jobs, as she has to get ready for her nightshift.

"Don't forget to take some dinner down to Granny and check she's okay!" she calls just before she rushes out of the door.



Key Questions

Q What are Dad, Ben and Jake having for their tea?

Q Where is the casserole dish?

Q Can you see any other hot things in the kitchen?

Q What can you see that is dangerous and should only be used by adults?

Teaching Points

- We use fire/heat to cook our food, but there are risks involved and cooking should only be done by adults or be supervised by adults. Children shouldn't be in a kitchen unsupervised when cooking is taking place.
- Gas cookers have a naked flame whereas electric cookers have rings or elements; both get extremely hot and can be dangerous.
- You should never leave cooking unattended.
- Matches and lighters are tools that should be used only by adults. They should not be left where children can reach them.
- Candles look nice, but can be a fire hazard and should never be touched.
- Candles should never be left burning in a room where there are no adults.

Test Understanding

How could a fire start in this scene?

Fire Safety Learning Objectives

- Identify basic fire hazards: matches and lighters, electricity, candles, cooking, smoking.
- Know that matches and lighters are tools (not toys) that should be kept in a safe place and used only by adults.
- Understand the consequences of playing with matches and lighters. Recognise when fire can be useful and when it can be dangerous.
- Understand that surfaces can be hot or cold and recognise when this can indicate danger.

The boys visit Ben's granny

Page Narrative

Ben's granny lives in the flat below and hasn't been feeling too well recently so the family is cooking her meals. Ben really likes visiting his granny as she is always interested in what he has been doing, so he usually calls in to see her every evening.

When Ben and Jake arrive with Granny's dinner, she is sitting by the fire.

"How are you feeling today?" asks Ben.

"It's so nice of you to ask, Ben. I'm feeling a lot better. But you don't want to hear about my illnesses; tell me what you did at school today!" says Granny.

"We've been learning about fire safety," replies Jake.

"Yes," says Ben. "Some really cool firefighters came to talk to us and showed us their fire engine. It was very big and I got to sit at the wheel. The firefighters told us about their special clothes and the things they use. They've got really long hoses to put out fires. It was brilliant. I think I want to be a firefighter when I grow up."

"Me too!" adds Jake.

Granny is interested and wants to hear more about what the boys have learned.



"Well they told us it's important to have a working smoke alarm which you should check every week," explains Jake. "A smoke alarm beeps when there is a fire so you can get out of a building in plenty of time, without getting hurt."

"Hang on Granny, where's your smoke alarm?" Ben says, pointing to the ceiling in the hallway.

Granny doesn't have a smoke alarm in her flat. Granny agrees that she should get one put in as soon as possible. Ben promises to get Dad to buy one for granny and fit it the next day.

Once Granny has finished her dinner, the boys take her tray back upstairs and play in Ben's room.

Key Questions

Q What have the boys learnt about in school?

Q Why is it important to have a smoke alarm?

Q How often should you check a smoke alarm?

Q What did the boys notice about Granny's flat?

Teaching Points

- Smoke alarms alert us when there is a fire and give us time to escape safely.
- Smoke alarms work even when we are asleep and wake us up so that we can escape from a fire safely.
- It is very important to test a smoke alarm every week and change the batteries every year (unless you have one with a longlife battery in it).
- If your smoke alarm isn't working it won't be able to alert you if there is a fire.
- By not having a working smoke alarm you are at risk.
- A fireguard fitted on front of a fire prevents us from burning ourselves.

Test Understanding

Why do you think Ben wanted Dad to fit a smoke alarm the next day?

Fire Safety Learning Objectives

- Begin to understand the importance a smoke alarm has in home fire safety.
- To identify the function of a smoke alarm.

The boys play in Ben's bedroom

Page Narrative

The boys have fun playing with Ben's racing cars and track in his bedroom, but at eight o'clock Dad says it's time for them to tidy everything away and get ready for bed. Ben's baby sister Jess is already fast asleep in her cot and so they tidy up quietly. It isn't long before the two boys are in bed and everywhere was peaceful and still.



Key Questions

- Q Where are the two boys playing?**
- Q What has Dad asked them to do before they go to bed?**
- Q Where is Ben's baby sister?**
- Q Why do you think it is safer to have a tidy bedroom?**

Teaching Points

- You should always make sure that your bedroom floor is tidy before you go to bed, in case you have to make a quick escape.
- Don't leave things near doors or on the stairs, which might block your way out or cause people to trip if there is a fire.

Test Understanding

Why do the boys tidy their bedroom?

Fire Safety Learning Objectives

- Know that having clear exit routes is important as part of a home fire safety plan.

Ben's sister, Ella, comes home late

Page Narrative

Much later, at around 11 o'clock, Ben's big sister Ella comes home from work. Ella goes to college during the day and works in the evenings at the local cinema. Ella is often home late and when she is, she's very tired and hungry.

Dad is getting ready for bed and has left Ella some casserole to heat up when she comes home. Ella is really happy when she smells the casserole as she comes through the door. She helps herself to a big plateful and sits down to eat it. However, because she is so tired, she has not turned the gas off properly and has carelessly left the oven gloves lying too close to the flame.



When she's finished her supper, Ella goes straight to bed, and because she is so exhausted, she falls asleep straight away.

Key Questions

- Q What has Ella forgotten to do when getting her dinner?**
- Q Why has Ella used oven gloves?**
- Q Where has she left the oven gloves?**
- Q Can you spot anything that Dad remembered to do? (He blew out the candle.)**

Teaching Points

- We can burn ourselves on hot things.
- Adults should always check that everything is turned off in the kitchen when they have finished using things.
- You should never leave a candle burning in an unoccupied room.
- If you leave things too close to a flame this can start a fire.
- If you see a fire hazard you should tell an adult and never try to put it right yourself.

Test Understanding

What do you think could happen when Ella goes to bed?

Fire Safety Learning

Objectives

- Identify basic fire hazards: matches and lighters, electricity, candles, cooking, smoking.
- Recognise when fire can be useful and when it can be dangerous.
- Understand that surfaces can be hot or cold and recognise when this can be used to indicate dangers.

The alarm starts beeping

Page Narrative

Suddenly everyone in the flat is woken up by the sound of the smoke alarm beeping loudly. Thanks to their fire safety lesson that day, Ben and Jake know what to do. They jump out of bed and shout, "Fire!" as loud as they can to wake up the family.

Ben looks into his baby sister's room. She is frightened by the noise and he finds her hiding under the bed covers with her teddy.

"Don't be scared Jess," he reassures her. "It's only the smoke alarm telling us to get out of the flat. We must leave now. You can't hide here."

Just as Ben is saying this, his dad appears and lifts Jess out of her cot. "That's right, Ben. Now



follow me. We need to get to a safe place outside."

Ella follows them all out of the flat. She fell asleep with her mobile phone next to her, so she picks this up on her way out.

Key Questions

Q How do the family know there was a fire?

Q What do Ben and Jake do?

Q Why is Ben's baby sister Jess hiding?

Q What does Ben say to Jess?

Teaching Points

- A working smoke alarm will alert us if there is a fire, even in the middle of the night when we are asleep.
- Having a working smoke alarm will give you time to escape from a fire safely.
- You should test your smoke alarm once a week to see if it's working.
- Change the batteries at least once a year, unless it is a 10-year smoke alarm.
- If the smoke alarm sounds, shout "Fire!" as loud as you can and get out quickly.
- If there is a fire you should never hide.
- Don't waste time getting things, they are not important.
- It is important to have a home fire escape plan so that everyone knows what to do in the event of a fire.

Test Understanding

What could have happened if the smoke alarm hadn't been working?

Fire Safety Learning Objectives

- Begin to understand the importance a smoke alarm has in home fire safety.
- To identify the function of a smoke alarm.
- To know why it is important for their family to have a home fire escape plan.
- Know that if the smoke alarm sounds, they should shout "Fire!" and get out, stay out, and call the Fire and Rescue Service out.

Everyone must get out and stay out

Page Narrative

Everybody follows Dad to the front door, which is the nearest safe way out. Dad picks up the front door key from a hook nearby. He unlocks the front door and they all go out of the flat safely. On the way down to the street, Dad wakes up Granny and they all go out into the cold night and stand a safe distance from their flats. They are still wearing their nightclothes because they left quickly. Granny is shivering so Dad puts his arm round her to keep her warm.

“Shall I run to the phone box to call 999?” asks Ben.

“No,” says Ella. “I’ve got my mobile with me; I’ll call.”

Ella rings 999 and asks the operator for the Fire and Rescue Service. She tries very hard to stay calm, even though she feels scared. She speaks in a clear, slow voice so the operator can hear exactly where to send the fire engine. She gives their full address and adds, “It’s opposite the petrol station,” to help the firefighters find them easily.



Jess begins to get upset. She has dropped her teddy in the hallway.

“Don’t cry Jess,” says Ben. “We have to stay outside if there is a fire. It’s dangerous to go back in. We could get hurt. We must wait here for the fire engines – they won’t be long.”

Key Questions

Q Which way do they go out? Why?

Q Where is the key for the door?

Q What does Ella do once they are outside?

Q What number is she ringing?

Q Who is she asking for?

Q How does she speak?

Q What information does Ella give?

Q Why is Jess upset?

Q What is Ben saying to Jess?

Teaching Points

- Having a home fire safety plan is important so that everyone knows what to do in the event of a fire.
- Keeping keys in a place where people can find them is an important part of a home fire safety plan.
- Having agreed exits and meeting points are all part of a home fire safety plan.
- If there is a fire, get out, stay out and call the Fire and Rescue Service out.
- When you are out of the building ring 999 and ask for the Fire and Rescue Service.
- Speak in a clear, calm voice and give your address plus any landmarks (if appropriate) that will help the Fire and Rescue Service find your home quickly.
- It is important to know your address in case there is a fire.
- If you haven’t got a mobile with you then use a call box or a neighbour’s phone.
- It is free to ring for the Fire and Rescue Service.

- You should only ring 999 if there really is a fire.
- Never go back inside for anything, not even a pet.

Test Understanding

Do you think they should go back to get the teddy? Why not?

Fire Safety Learning Objectives

- Know how to make an escape plan for the home.
- Know their address or something to identify where they are if they’re not at home.
- Know they have to shout “Fire!”, get out, stay out and call the Fire and Rescue Service out.
- Recognise the number 999.
- Know the information they need when calling 999.
- Understand when it is appropriate to use the 999 emergency call system.

The Fire and Rescue Service arrive

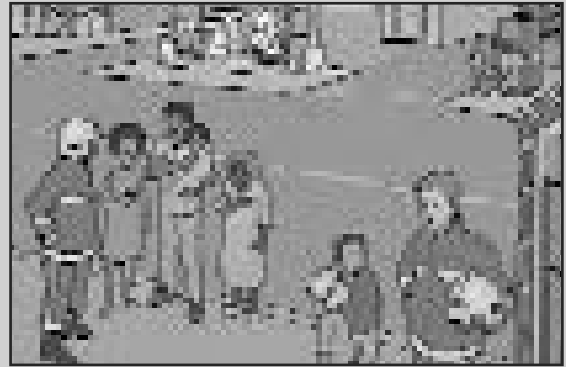
Page Narrative

Within minutes the Fire and Rescue Service arrives and very quickly put out the fire.

After the fire has been put out, the firefighters tell Ben's dad that it looks like the fire has started in the kitchen. Ben and Jake recognise one of the firefighters. He had been to their school earlier. They run over to speak to him. "Hello you two," says firefighter Steve.

"The smoke alarm went off and we knew exactly what to do," chorus the boys.

"Well done," says Steve. "You helped everyone get out safely and made our job easier. If there's anything I can do to say thank you, just let me know."



"Well," says Jake. "You know you told us about home fire safety checks, you couldn't fit a smoke alarm in Ben's granny's flat could you?"

Key Questions

Q What helps the Fire and Rescue Service to arrive very quickly?

Q How are the boys sensible?

Q Why do you think the firefighter is pleased with the boys?

Q Why do you think Ella is looking upset?

Q What do you think the firefighter might be saying to Ella?

Teaching Points

- The family was able to escape safely because they had a working smoke alarm.
- Smoke alarms should be tested every week to see if they are working.
- The batteries should be changed once a year (unless the smoke alarm has longlife batteries in it).
- You should have a home fire escape plan so that everyone knows what to do in case of fire.
- The boys knew what to do and acted sensibly.
- In the event of a fire you should get out, stay out and call the Fire Rescue Service out.
- You should never hide.
- You should never waste time getting things, they aren't important.
- You should never go back inside for anything, not even a pet.
- You can call the Fire and Rescue Service for free from any phone.
- Knowing your address and a landmark, plus speaking in a clear voice, helps the Fire and Rescue Service to arrive quickly.
- You should only call the Fire and Rescue Service if there is a real fire.

- Ella was careless and that caused a fire.
- If you see any fire hazards always tell an adult.

Test Understanding

What should Ella have done once she'd served up her dinner?

What does Granny need to get?

Fire Safety Learning Objectives

- Begin to understand the importance a smoke alarm has in home fire safety.
- To identify the function of a smoke alarm.
- To identify basic fire hazards: matches and lighters, electricity, candles and cooking.
- Know how to make a fire safety escape plan for the home.
- Know their address or something to identify where they are if they're not at home.
- Know they have to shout "Fire!", get out, stay out and call the Fire and Rescue Service out.
- Recognise the number 999.
- Know the information they need when calling 999.
- Understand when it is appropriate to use the 999 emergency call system.

Full Narrative: Part 1

It is Friday evening and Ben's friend Jake is staying for tea, and he is sleeping over for the night. The boys are very excited. Ben's mum has made some of her delicious casserole using her secret family recipe. Dad dishes up large helpings for Jake and Ben, who are both hungry after playing football in the afternoon.

Ben's mum is a nurse at the local hospital. She is busy dashing around doing jobs, as she has to get ready for her nightshift.

"Don't forget to take some dinner down to Granny and check she's okay!" she calls just before she rushes out of the door.

Ben's granny lives in the flat below and hasn't been feeling too well recently so the family is cooking her meals. Ben really likes visiting his Granny as she is always interested in what he has been doing, so he usually calls in to see her every evening.

When Ben and Jake arrive with Granny's dinner, she is sitting by the fire.

"How are you feeling today?" asks Ben.

"It's so nice of you to ask, Ben. I'm really feeling a lot better. But you don't want to hear about my illnesses; tell me what you did at school today!" says Granny.

"We've been learning about fire safety," replies Jake.

"Yes," says Ben. "Some really cool firefighters came to talk to us and showed us their fire engine. It was very big and I got to sit at the wheel. The firefighters told us about their special clothes and the things they use. They've got really long hoses to put out fires. It was brilliant. I think I want to be a firefighter when I grow up."

"Me too!" adds Jake.

Granny is interested and wants to hear more about what the boys have learned.

"Well they told us it's important to have a working smoke alarm which you should check every week," explains Jake. "A smoke alarm beeps when there is a fire so you can get out of a building in plenty of time, without getting hurt."

"Hang on Granny, where's your smoke alarm?" Ben says, pointing to the ceiling in the hallway.

Granny doesn't have a smoke alarm in her flat. Granny agrees that she should get one put in as soon as possible. Ben promises to get Dad to buy one for granny and fit it the next day.

Once Granny has finished her dinner, the boys take her tray back upstairs and play in Ben's room.

The boys have fun playing with Ben's racing cars and track in his bedroom, but at eight o'clock Dad says it is time for them to tidy everything away and get ready for bed. Ben's baby sister Jess is already fast asleep in her cot and so they tidy up quietly. It isn't long before the two boys are in bed and everywhere is peaceful and still.

Much later, at around 11 o'clock, Ben's big sister Ella comes home from work. Ella goes to college during the day and works in the evenings at the local cinema. Ella is often home late and when she is, she's very tired and hungry.

Dad is getting ready for bed and has left Ella some casserole to heat up when she comes home. Ella is really happy when she smells the casserole as she comes through the door. She helps herself to a big plateful and sits down to eat it. However, because she is so tired, she has not turned the gas off properly and has carelessly left the oven gloves lying too close to the flame.

Full Narrative: Part 2

When she's finished her supper, Ella goes straight to bed, and because she is so exhausted, she falls asleep straight away.

Suddenly everyone in the flat is woken up by the sound of the smoke alarm beeping loudly. Thanks to their fire safety lesson that day, Ben and Jake know what to do. They jump out of bed and shout, "Fire!" as loud as they can to wake up the family.

Ben looks into his baby sister's room. She is frightened by the noise and he finds her hiding under the bed covers with her teddy.

"Don't be scared Jess," he reassures her. "It's only the smoke alarm telling us to get out of the flat. We must leave now. You can't hide here."

Just as Ben is saying this, his Dad appears and lifts Jess out of her cot. "That's right, Ben. Now follow me. We need to get to a safe place outside."

Ella follows them all out of the flat. She fell asleep with her mobile phone next to her, so she picks this up on her way out.

Everybody follows Dad to the front door, which is the nearest safe way out. Dad picks up the front door key from a hook nearby. He unlocks the front door and they all get out of the flat safely. On the way down to the street, Dad wakes up Granny and they all go out into the cold night and stand a safe distance from their homes. They are still wearing their nightclothes because they have to leave in such a hurry. Granny is shivering so Dad puts his arm round her to help her warm up.

"Shall I run to the phone box to call 999?" asks Ben.

"No," says Ella. "I've got my mobile with me; I'll call."

Ella rings 999 and asks the operator for the Fire and Rescue Service. She tries very hard to stay calm, even though she feels scared. She speaks in a clear, slow voice so the operator can hear exactly where to send the fire engine. She gives their full address and adds, "It's opposite the petrol station," to help the firefighters find them easily.

Jess begins to get upset. She has dropped her teddy in the hallway.

"Don't cry, Jess," says Ben. "We have to stay outside if there is a fire. It's dangerous to go back in. We could get hurt. We must wait here for the fire engines – they won't be long."

Within minutes the Fire Service arrives and very quickly they have ladders and hoses running up to the flat. They spray water onto the fire to put it out.

After the fire has been put out, the firefighters tell Ben's dad that it looks like the fire has started in the kitchen. Ben and Jake recognise one of the fire-fighters. He had been in their school earlier. They run over to speak to him. "Hello you two," says firefighter Steve.

"The smoke alarm went off and we knew exactly what to do," chorus the boys.

"Well done," said Steve. "You helped everyone get out safely and made our job easier. If there's anything I can do to say thank you, just let me know."

"Well," says Jake. "You know you told us about home fire safety checks, you couldn't fit a smoke alarm in Ben's granny's flat could you?"