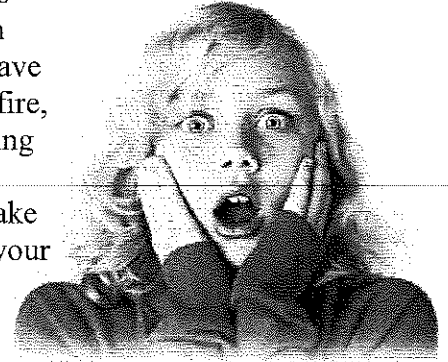




Vacaville Fire Department Prevention Bureau
650 Merchant St., Vacaville, CA 95688 (707) 449-5453

Children and Fire Safety

The Vacaville Fire Department would like to remind parents and teachers about the importance of teaching our kids fire safety skills. It is a proven fact that providing safety lessons to children at an early age can help to save lives. Children five years old and younger are twice as likely to die in a fire, when compared to an older child or adult. This number should be alarming to parents with young children and for adults who work with younger children. That is why the Vacaville Fire Department would like you to take a few minutes to read the teaching tips and topics below to discuss with your children and or pupils.



Teaching Tips:

- Be calm and reasonable.
- Teach children to be responsible about fire by explaining the risks and dangers.
- When speaking to children, tell the truth and be confident.
- Children should feel that the adults in their lives can protect them.
- Set a good example by practicing fire-safe behavior.
- Teach older children to use fire responsibly.

Topics:

- Explain how smoke alarms and sprinklers (if you have them,) work to protect your family.
- See how your children will react to smoke alarms by testing them once a month.
- Involve your children in home fire safety planning. Have them participate in developing a family escape plan and practice it twice each year.
- Teach your children about having two ways out of every room, (if possible) from your home.
- Teach children that matches, lighters, and fire starters are “tools,” and that “tools should only be used by adults.”
- Ask young children to tell an adult if they find matchers or lighters.
- Teach children to never hide from fire in closets, under beds, or anywhere else in their home. If they hear a smoke alarm they should leave their home immediately.
- Discuss a family meeting place in front of your home where members of the family should go when they escape from a fire.
- Discuss when and how to call 9-1-1.
- Talk to your children about crawling low under the smoke.
- Discuss and practice stop, drop and roll.

If you should have any questions about fire safety for children, please contact the Vacaville Fire Prevention Bureau at 449-5452.