

# Deer Park Fire Department - Fire Safety Education

Letter to Parents ,

The Deer Park Fire Department will be sending a representative to speak to your children about Fire Safety.

In an effort for you to understand the lessons taught & to help reinforce and practice these lessons this letter is to advise you of some of the instruction that will be presented. As we all know a fire in the home can be extremely frightening and as parents we want to protect our children and we want our children to feel safest when at home however, if there is a fire there is not much we can do to make them feel safe but we can teach them what they need to do if a fire occurs.

It is not unusual for children to come home with a sense of fear after this presentation. We ask that you reinforce that we know fire is frightening and it is OK to be afraid. We should be afraid of fire and if we learn what to do to help prevent a fire and we learn what to do if there is a fire we can keep ourselves safe.

Some subjects we will discuss are:

Kitchen & candle safety as well as the importance not to touch or play with matches.

The importance of sleeping with the bedroom doors closed all the way to help prevent smoke & fire from getting in.

The importance of having Smoke & Carbon Monoxide alarms on every level of the home most importantly in hallways within 15 feet of all sleeping areas. A smoke alarm should also be located inside every bed room.

If you are unable to exit your home or bed room from the door, all occupants MUST be able to get themselves out a window without any assistance.

1<sup>st</sup> – You MUST be able to reach your window.

2<sup>nd</sup> – You MUST be able to unlock & open your window.

3<sup>rd</sup> – You MUST be able to remove (open or cut) the screen.

4<sup>th</sup> – You MUST be able to get your upper body out the window.

Climb onto a roof if possible or keep your head & arms outside the window for fresh air & yell for help.

Be careful not to give your child a false sense of security by telling them you or the firefighters will rescue them. If this is not possible time may run out too quickly. They may remain in the room waiting for you and it may be too late.

Reinforce there is NO SAFE PLACE TO HIDE INSIDE A HOME if there is a fire. Everyone MUST get outside to a special meeting place.

Children need to become more familiar with the sound of a smoke alarm especially when asleep. Teach them what the smoke alarm sounds like in your home by testing it often & **PRACTICE EXIT DRILLS IN THE HOME**.

Please feel free to request a Fire Safety Presentation at your P.T.A., Religious Group or other Assemblies by contacting the Deer Park Fire Department at (631) 667-4430.

**“ONLY WORKING SMOKE ALARMS HELP TO SAVE LIVES”**

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Superintendent of Schools

10/2/15  
Date