



San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District

1500 Bollinger Canyon Road, San Ramon, CA 94583

Phone (925) 838-6600 | Fax (925) 838-6629

www.firedepartment.org | info@firedepartment.org

Dear Family:

Good news! Your child has just attended the San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District's 1st and 2nd grade fire safety education program.

In this lesson, your child learned the importance of being **Safety Smart at Home**. It is very important your child knows they can always be on the lookout for hazards in the home and if they find a hazard to tell their parents.

Your child learned to **never overload an electrical outlet** because it could overheat and cause a fire. They learned to check for frayed electrical wires and to never place electrical cords under a rug.

Your child also learned a variety of ways to help themselves and others to avoid injuries. Some of the ways are as follows:

- **to never cook alone,**
- **to always keep space heaters at least 3 feet away from flammable items, and**
- **to never cover a lamp shade when the light is on.**

Each household should perform a home fire safety inspection using the checklist provided with this letter. Your house will be considered fire safe with you answering "Yes" to the checklist questions.

Great! Your house is fire safe. Now all you need to do is practice your fire safety plan and make sure your children **learn their name, address and phone number** in case they need to call 9-1-1.

I hope you and your child have enjoyed our fire safety education program and that you review these life-saving lessons together often. Please call me if you have any **q**uestions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joyce Castro".

Joyce Castro

Fire Inspector

(925) 838-6688

Home Fire Safety Checklist

Score a fire safety home run — do a home fire safety inspection!

Striking out fire in your home requires a little homework. Take about 20 minutes to inspect your home. As you go from room to room, answer the questions below. For each question you answer “yes” to, give yourself a point. When you’re finished, add up the points to find out your score. Kids, ask a grown-up to help you complete this checklist!

First Base - Cooking Safety

- Yes No Does a grown-up always stay in the kitchen when food is cooking on the stove?
- Yes No Are stove tops and counters clean and uncluttered?
- Yes No Are there pot holders within easy reach of the stove?
- Yes No Are pot handles turned inward so they can't be bumped?
- Yes No Are curtains and other things that can burn well away from the stove?
- Yes No Is there a “kid-free” zone of three feet (one metre) around the stove when grown-ups are cooking?

Second Base - Heating Safety

- Yes No Are portable space heaters always turned off when adults leave the room or go to sleep?
- Yes No If space heaters are used in your home, are they at least three feet (one metre) away from anything else that can burn, including people, furniture, and pets?
- Yes No Does your fireplace have a sturdy screen to catch sparks?
- Yes No Has your chimney been inspected and cleaned during the past year?
- Yes No Has your furnace been serviced by a professional in the past year?
- Yes No Are propane tanks and other fuels stored outside your home?

Third Base - Electrical Safety

- Yes No Are extension cords used safely? (Are they not under carpets or across doorways?)
- Yes No Are electrical cords in good condition, without cracks or frayed areas? (A grown-up should unplug lamps and appliances before inspecting the cords.)
- Yes No Are kitchen appliances – such as the coffee-maker, toaster oven, and microwave – plugged into separate receptacle outlets?

Home Plate - Smoke Alarms/ Home Fire Escape

- Yes No Does your home have smoke alarms on every level, including the basement, and outside each sleeping area?
- Yes No Are the batteries working in all your smoke alarms? (A grown-up should help by pushing the test button to find out.)
- Yes No Are all the exits in your home clear of furniture, toys, and clutter?
- Yes No Does your family have a home fire escape plan that includes two exits, usually a door and a window, from each room?
- Yes No Has your family picked a safe place to meet outside after you exit your home?

Yes No Have you and your family practiced a home fire drill within the last six months? (Why not do one tonight?)

Yes No Do you know the fire department's emergency phone number (which should be called from a neighbor's or nearby phone once you get outside)?

What's Your Fire Safety Batting Average?



If you answered "yes" to all of the checklist questions above, congratulations! You scored a fire safety home run!



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If you answered "yes" to 15 to 20 questions, you've made it to third base. Just make a few adjustments, and you'll easily hit a fire safety home run.

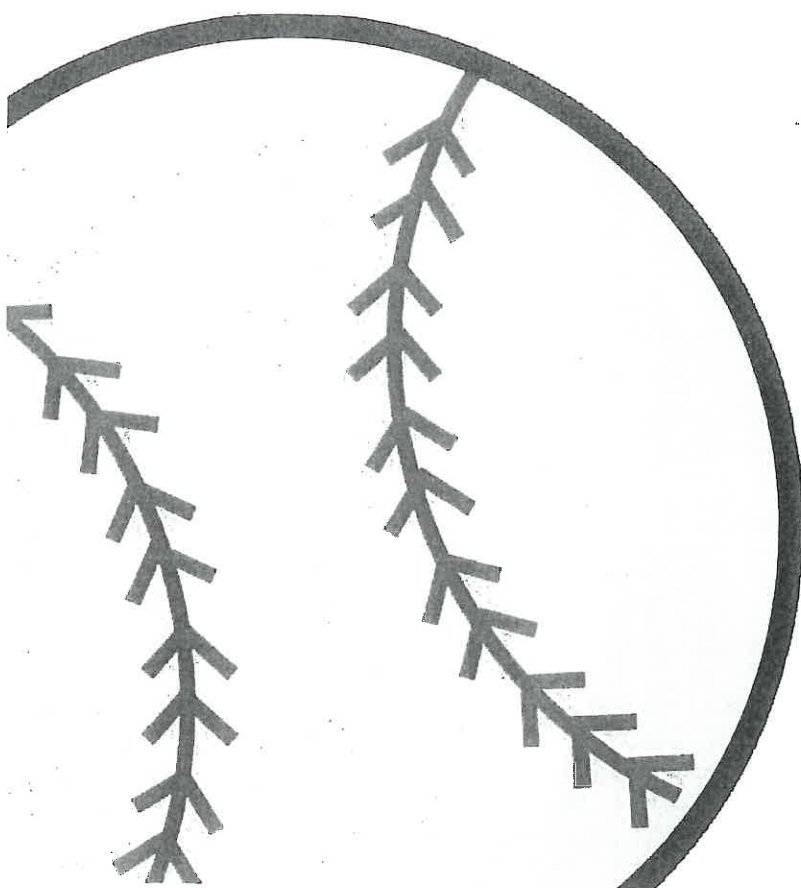


If you answered "yes" to 10 to 14 questions, you've hit a double. You're going in the right direction, but you've got some work to do before you get to home plate.



If you answered "yes" to fewer than 10 questions, you've reached first base, but you need to make many changes around your home in order to reach home plate.

For all questions to which you answered "no," make sure your family takes the steps needed to make them a "yes" so you can all score a fire safety home run!



National Fire Protection Association
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www.nfpa.org
www.firepreventionweek.org
www.sparky.org