

**Let's Stop**

**Fire**

**Before  
it Starts!**

**Alberta**

LABOUR  
Fire Commissioner's Office

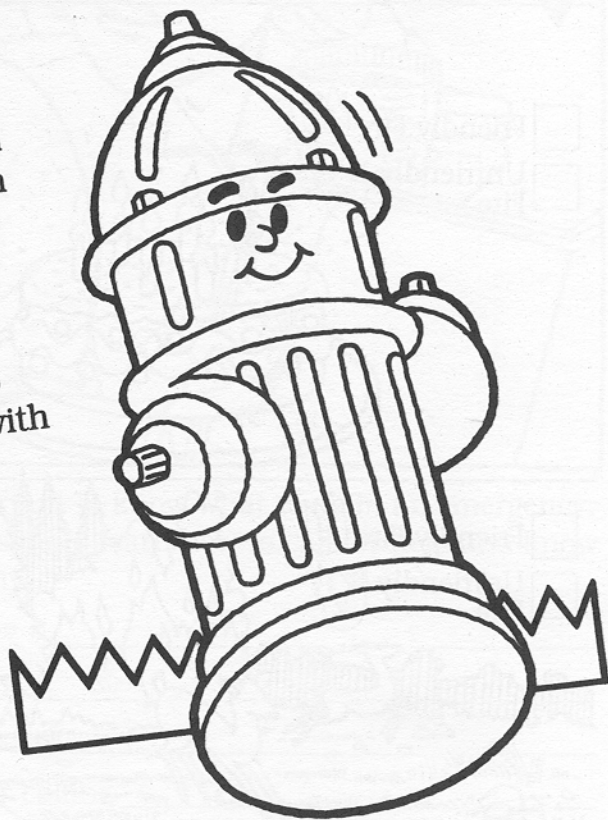
## Message to Parents

**T**oo often tragic fires happen because of carelessness or inattention. Children playing with matches, an unattended pot on the stove, or a cigarette ash that has fallen on upholstered furniture. These are all real situations that can lead to fires.

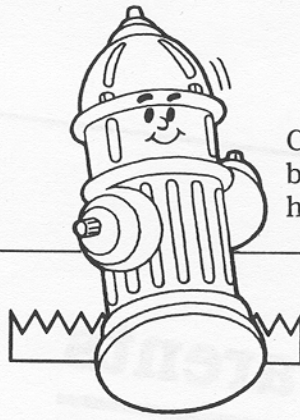
We have developed this activity book as a tool to teach children about the hazards of fire and also about what they can do if fire does occur. Preschool children can learn some of the fire safety precautions with the assistance of their parents, while elementary school children may need the assistance of parents and/or teachers with some of the activities. Many of the activities in this book will also appeal to older children.

Case histories show that teaching children about fire safety has resulted in their knowing what to do during an emergency. By helping your children learn about fire safety, you can help avoid tragedies.

We encourage you to take time to go through the activities in this book with your children, and to promote fire safety in your home.



# Friendly and Unfriendly Fires



Children need to know the difference between useful fires and fires that can hurt them.





**Friendly Fires** are good. They help us cook food, keep warm and celebrate special times.





**Unfriendly Fires** are bad and can hurt us. If you see an unfriendly fire, tell a grown-up quickly!



**Check the box you think is correct for each picture**

- Friendly Fire 
- Unfriendly Fire 





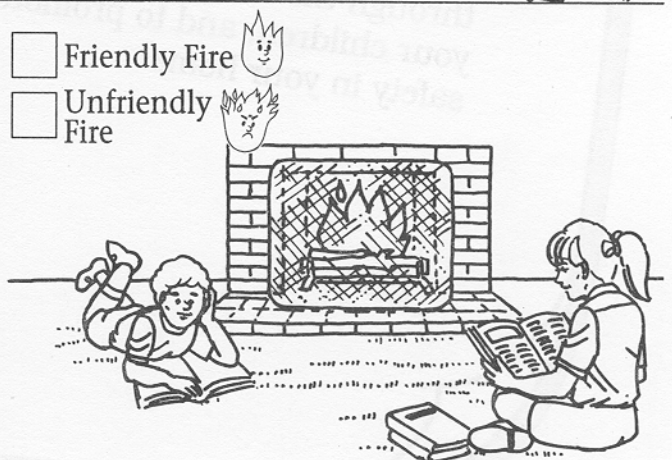
- Friendly Fire 
- Unfriendly Fire 



- Friendly Fire 
- Unfriendly Fire 

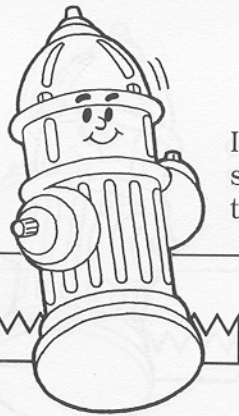


- Friendly Fire 
- Unfriendly Fire 



# Report Fire and Smoke Immediately

If children see smoke or a fire, they should shout "Fire" to warn everyone and then get out of the house quickly.



**FIRE!**



It is important to know what to do in an emergency. Children should learn how to call for help and know what to say.

Emergency # \_\_\_\_\_

My name is \_\_\_\_\_

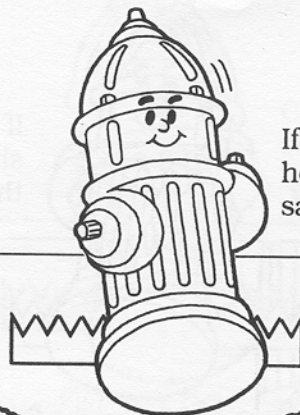
My address is \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for calling \_\_\_\_\_

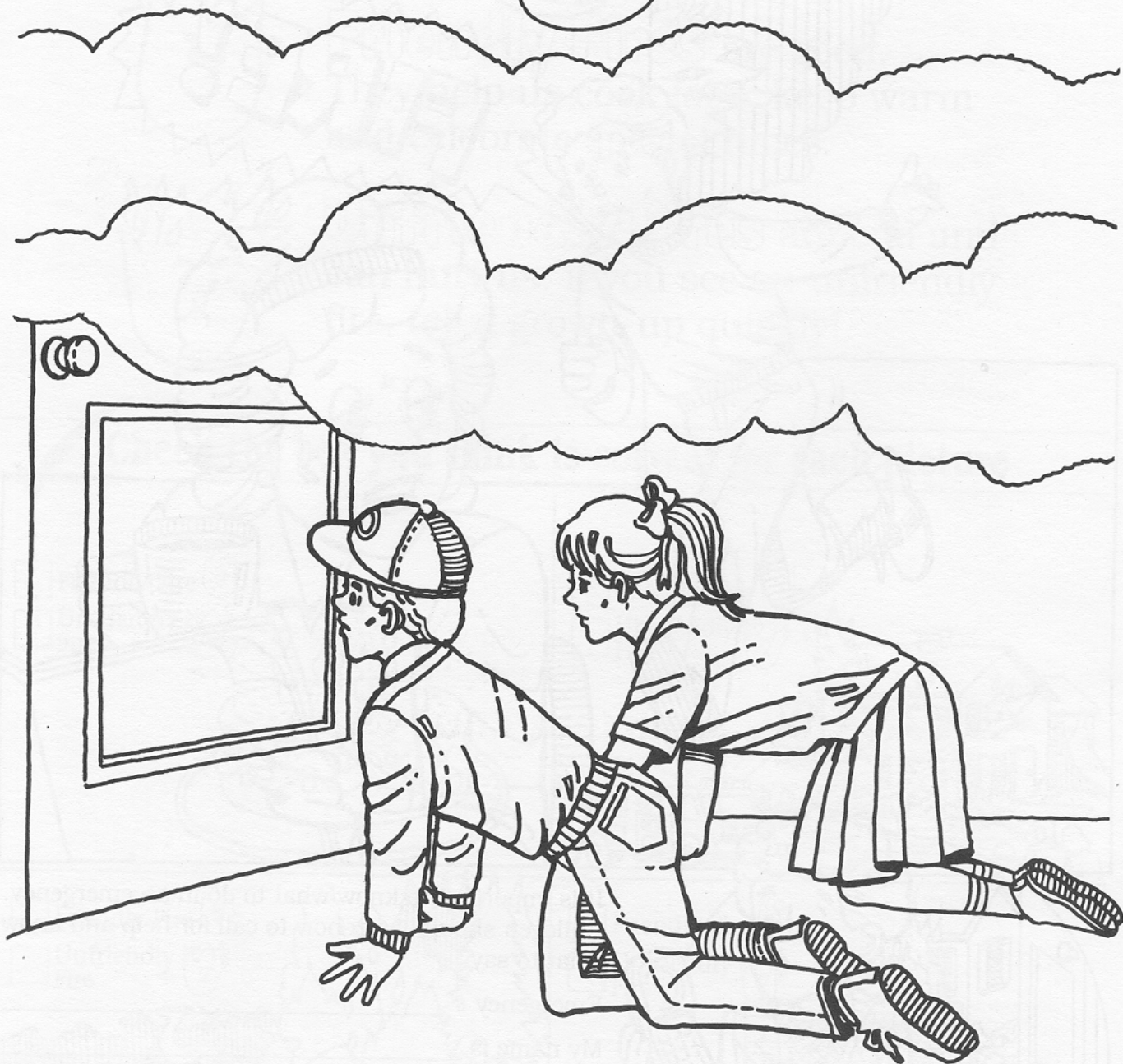
\_\_\_\_\_

If there is a fire in the house, tell everyone to get out quickly and then go to a neighbor's house to call for help.

# Crawl Low as you Go



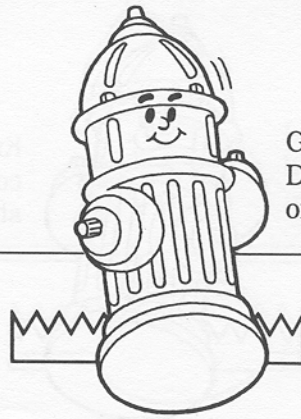
If a fire occurs, it is important to know how to avoid the smoke and get out safely.



Smoke from fire is poisonous and can make people very, very sick. In a smoky room, crawl low on hands and knees because the good air is down low.

Open the door as if there's a fire behind it. If there is a fire or smoke, close the door and try to get out another way.

# If Clothes catch on Fire...

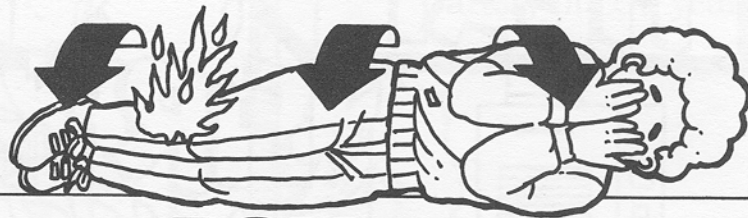


General safety procedures, such as Stop, Drop and Roll, should be taught early and often.



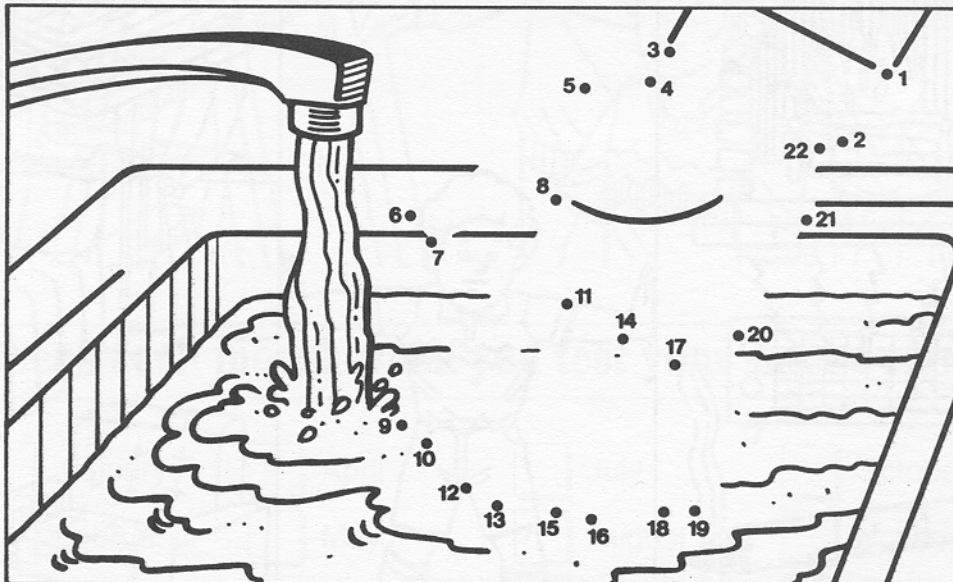
**STOP**

**DROP**  
to the floor



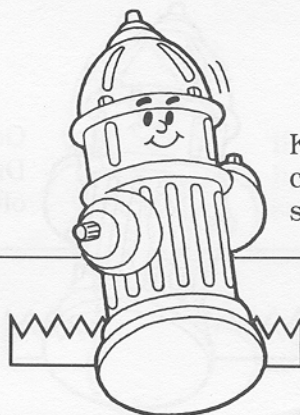
**ROLL** until the fire's out  
Cover your face with your hands

## Cool a burn in cool water



**Do not use ice or butter on the burn**

# How Fires Happen

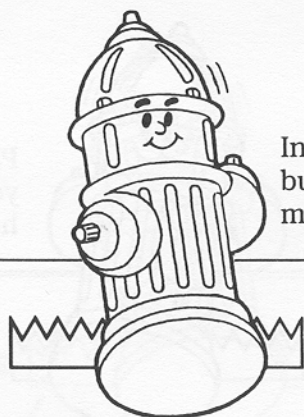


Know that Heat + Fuel = Fire. Keep what could be deadly combinations apart to stop fires before they start.

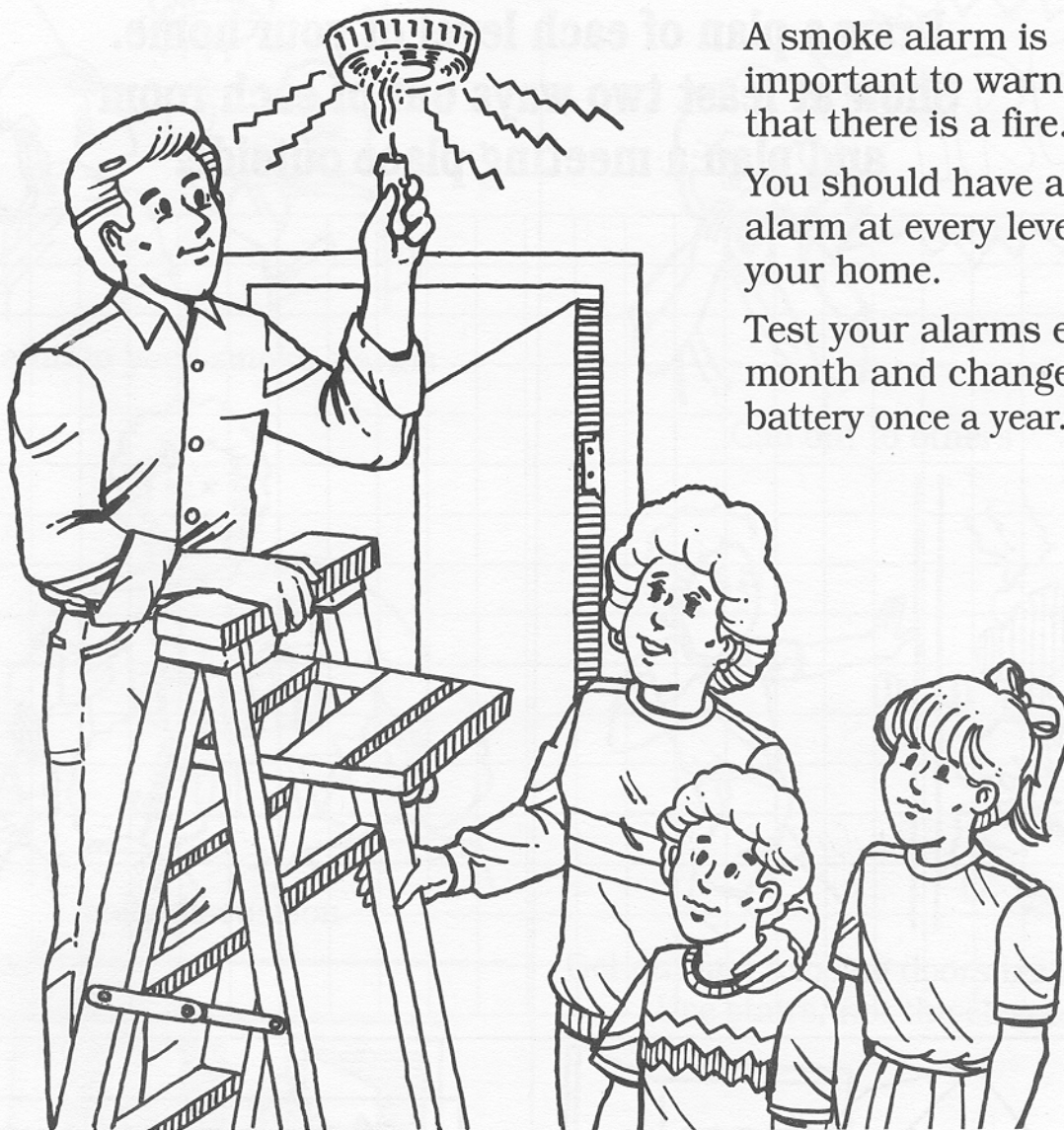
Fires happen when Heat and Fuel get together. There are different sources of heat and fuel in your home. Make sure they never get too close.



# Smoke Alarms



Installing smoke alarms is very important, but without maintaining your alarms you may not have the protection you need.



A smoke alarm is important to warn you that there is a fire.

You should have a smoke alarm at every level in your home.

Test your alarms every month and change the battery once a year.

**Check each month when you test your smoke alarms**

January

April

July

October

February

May

August

November

March

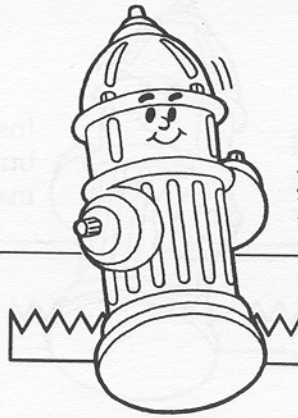
June

September

December

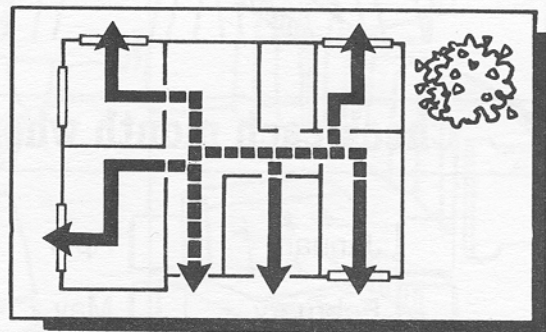
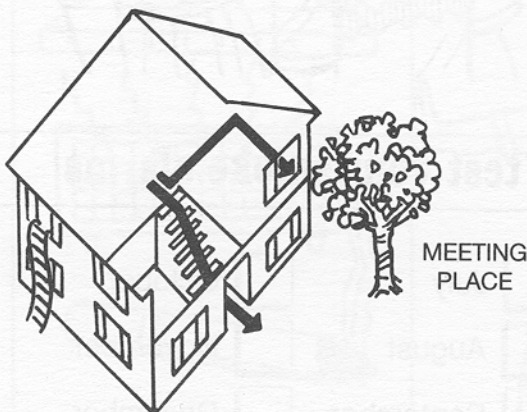


# Fire Escape



Plan your fire escape routes and teach your children the possible exits they may have to use.

**Draw a plan of each level of your home.  
Show at least two ways out of each room  
and plan a meeting place outside.**



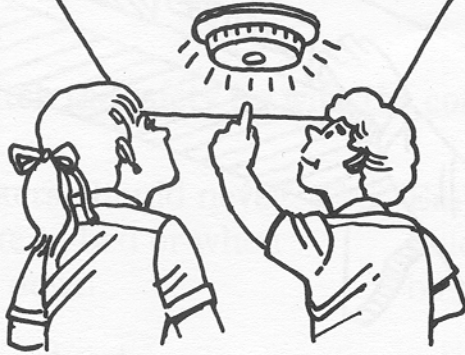
SAMPLE FLOOR PLAN

# Fire Escape

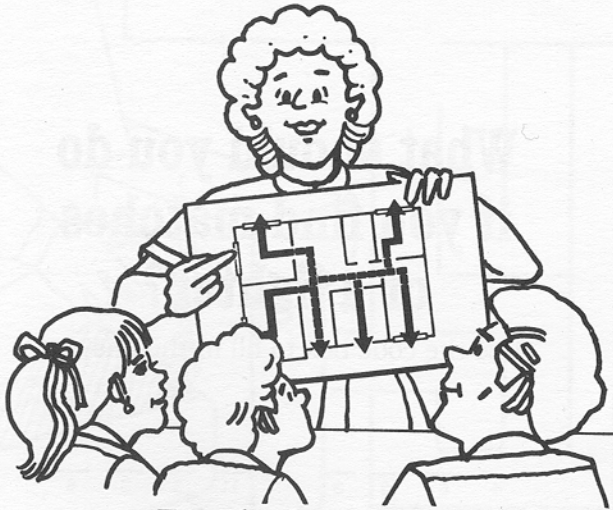


Practice your fire escape plan with your family. Memorize the emergency number in your area. Practice responding calmly and correctly.

**Plan your escape now**



Maintain your smoke alarms



Family discussion



Practice often

**In case of a real fire**



Call out to others

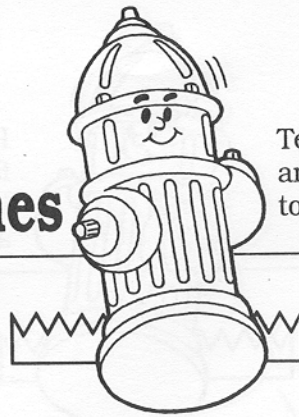


Get out fast, closing doors behind you  
Use stairs, not the elevator



Call for help from a neighbor's home  
Never go back inside a burning house

# Safety with Lighters and Matches



Teach children that matches and lighters are to be used by adults only, they are not toys.

Never play with matches or a lighter

They should be kept on a high shelf at home



## What should you do if you find matches or a lighter?

(Use the code box to fill in the answer)

4 6 13 3      11 5 3 8

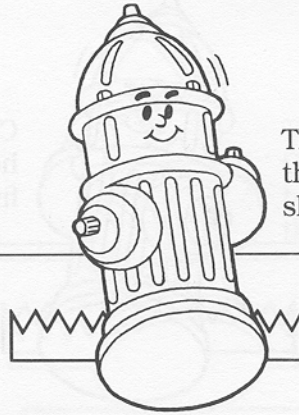
11 10      1 9

1 2 12 7 11

### Code Box

- |     |     |      |      |
|-----|-----|------|------|
| 1=A | 4=G | 8=M  | 12=U |
| 2=D | 5=H | 9=N  | 13=V |
| 3=E | 6=I | 10=O |      |
|     | 7=L | 11=T |      |

# Encourage Safe Smoking



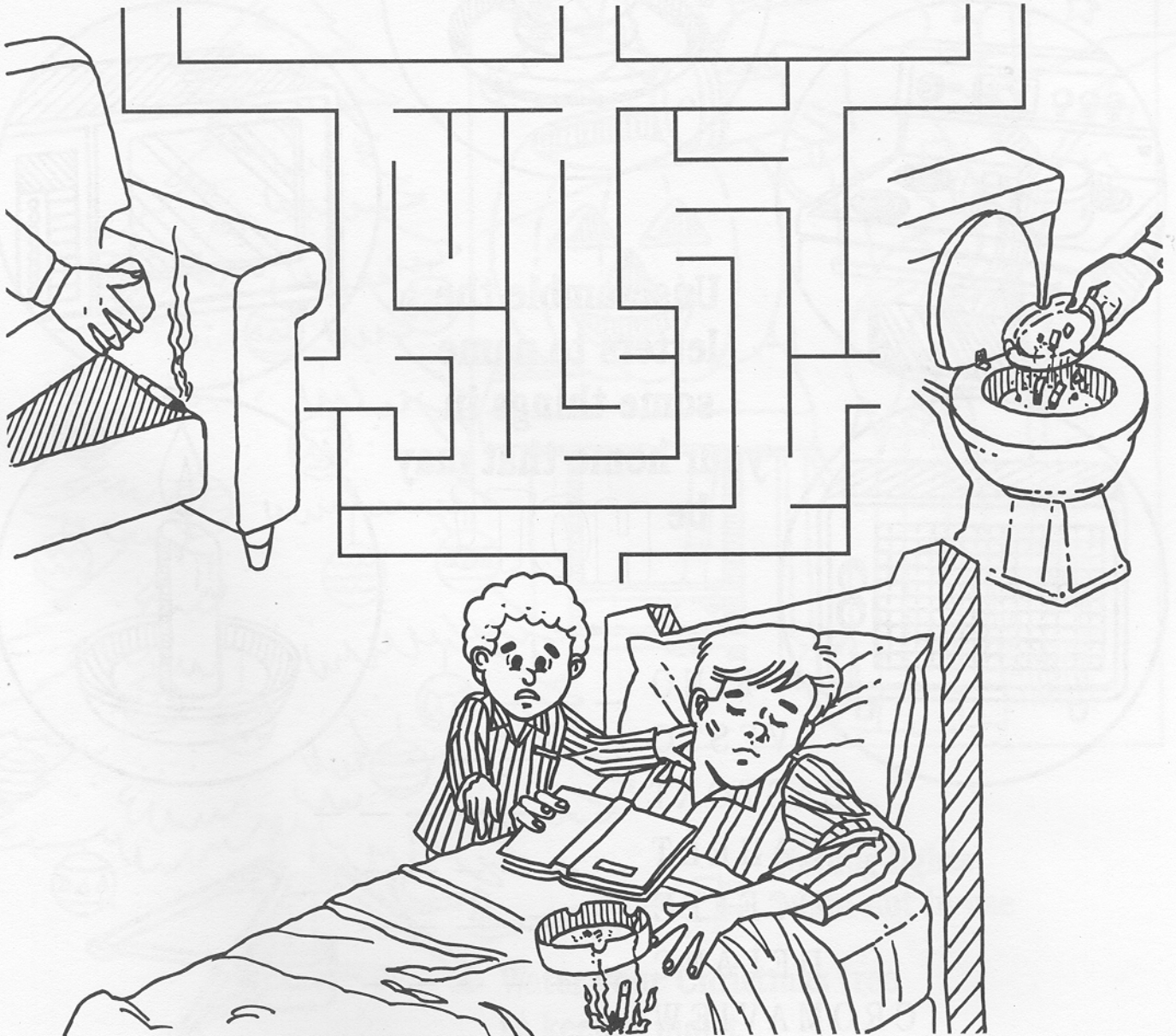
There are additional safety concerns when there is a smoker in the house. Children should be aware of these risks.

Match the safety tip with the correct picture. Use a different colour for each path.

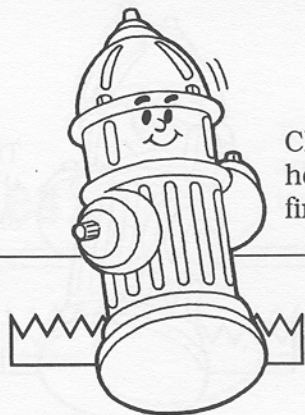
Smokers should never smoke in bed or when lying down

Empty ashtrays into toilet. Never into a waste basket

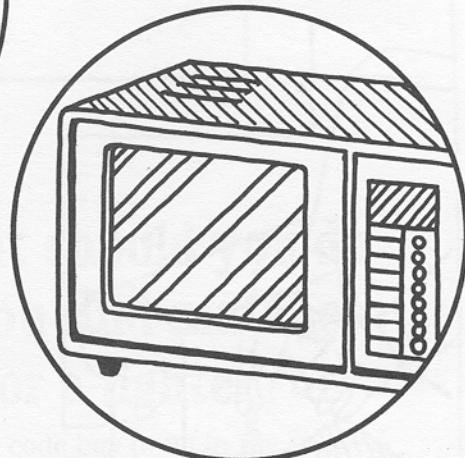
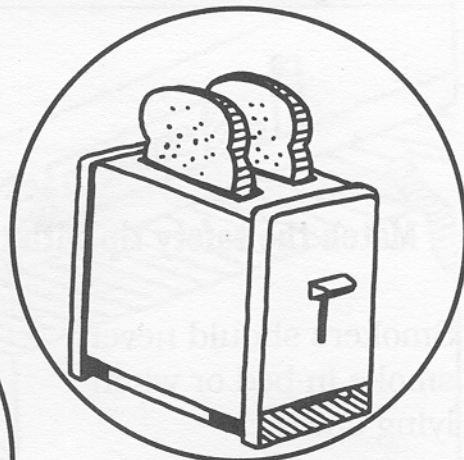
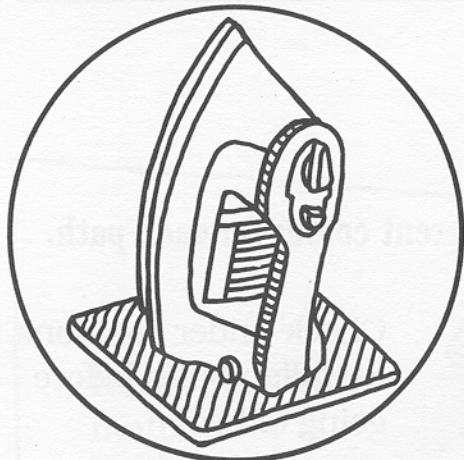
Check under cushions for fallen butts before going to bed



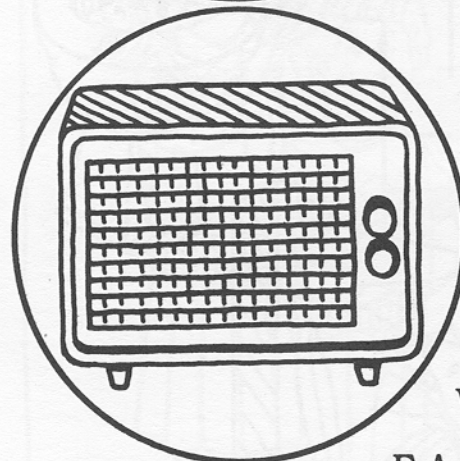
# Hot Things Can Burn



Children are often not aware that many household items can cause burns or start fires.



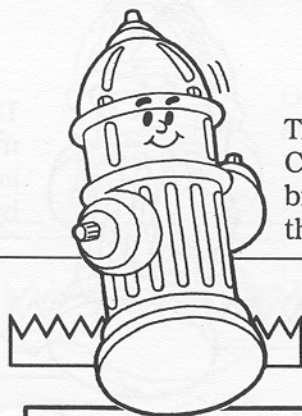
Unscramble the letters to name some things in your home that may be **HOT!**



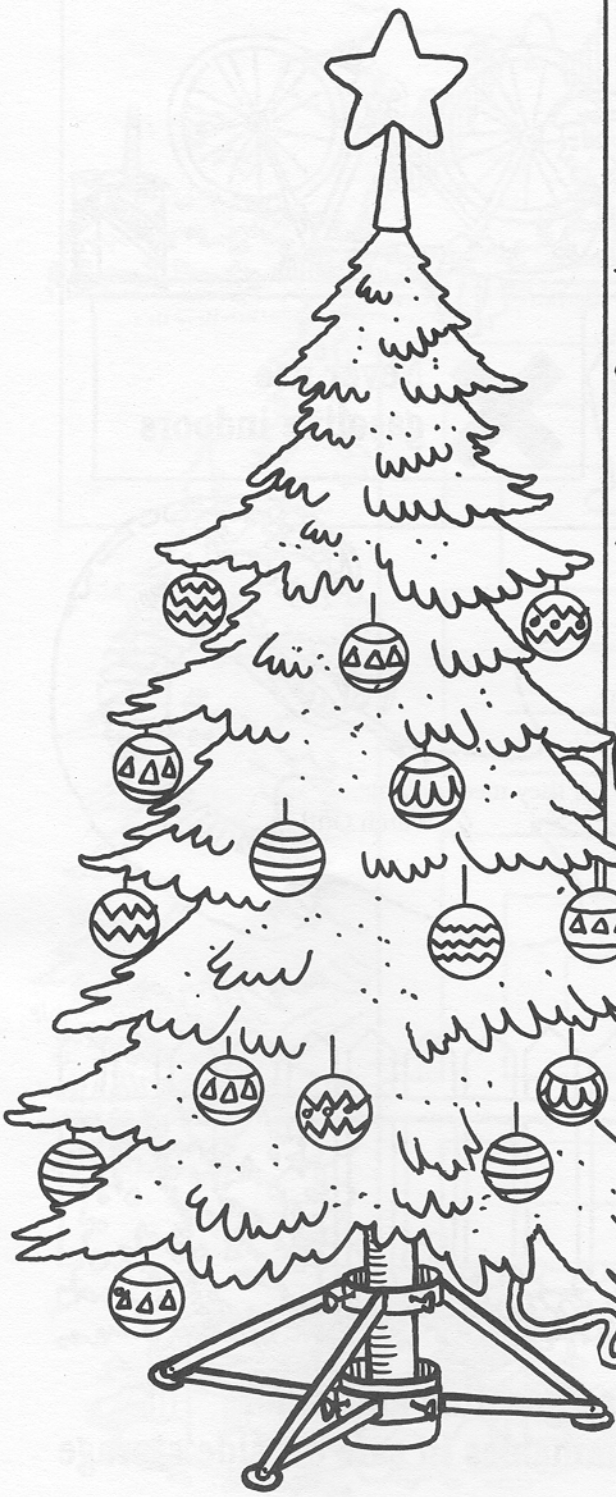
- RINO \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- VESTO \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- EASTORT \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- EAHRET \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- OCEFFE \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- DELANC \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- CROMAVIEW \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

# Safety Ideas for Special Occasions

There are additional fire risks with Christmas trees, pumpkin candles and birthday cakes throughout the year. Keep these occasions safe and fun for everyone.



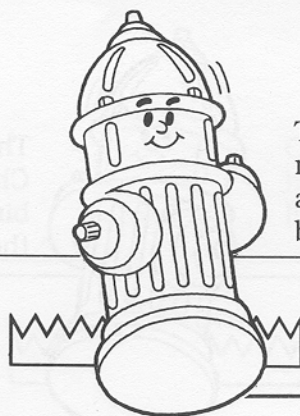
Use a flashlight instead of a candle in your pumpkin



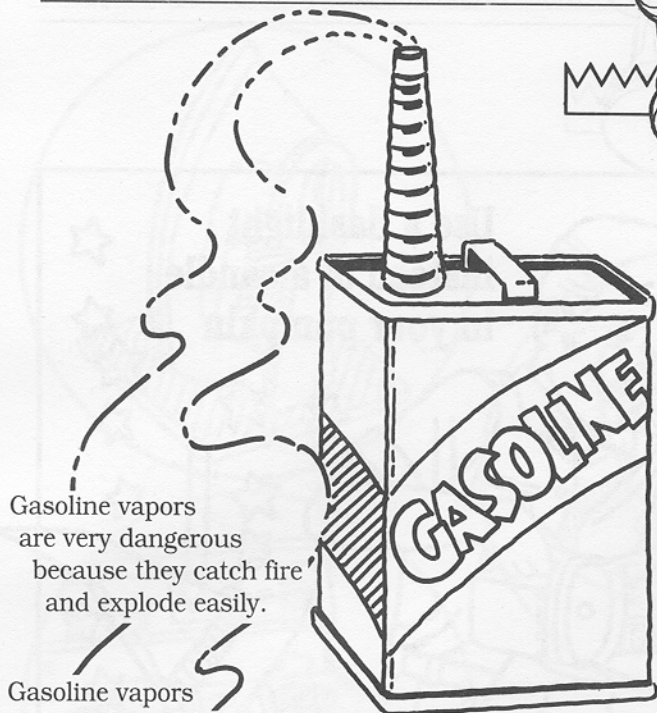
Unplug lights when not in use

Water your Christmas tree to keep it moist

# Gasoline Vapors can be Deadly



The use and storage of flammable materials requires extra caution by adults, and an awareness of the danger by all members of the family.



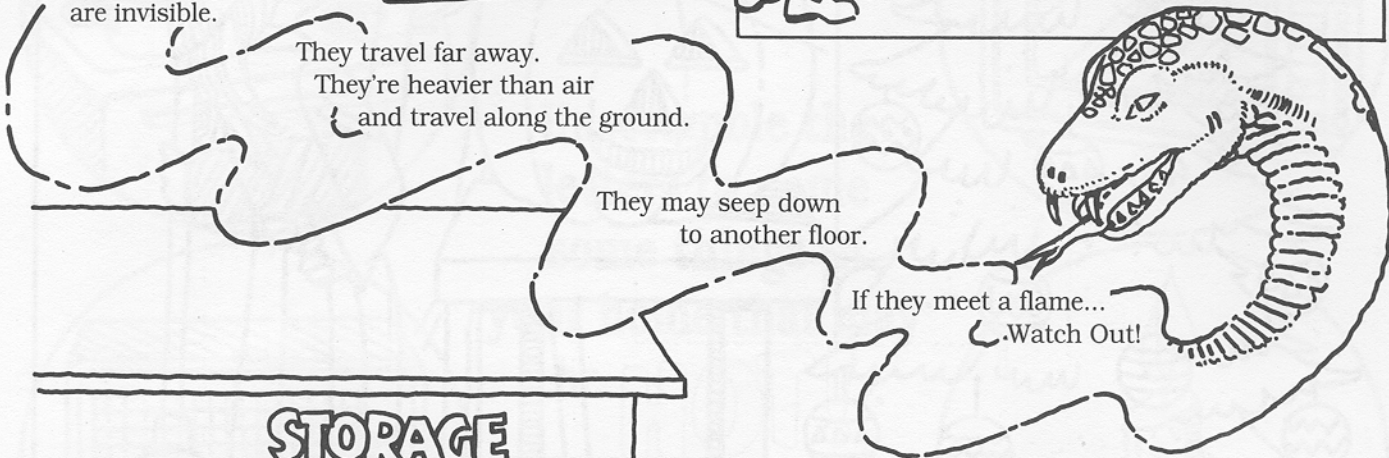
Gasoline vapors are very dangerous because they catch fire and explode easily.

Gasoline vapors are invisible.

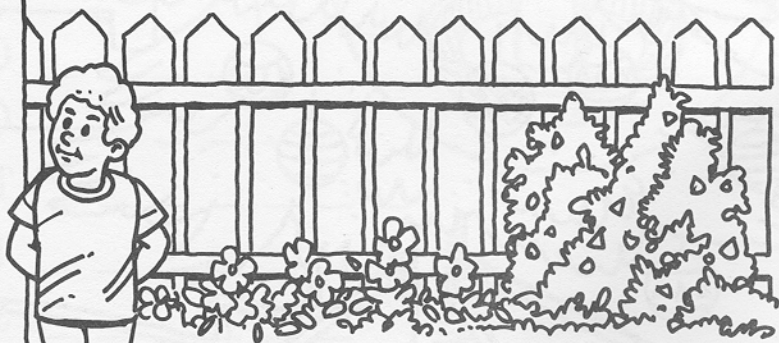
They travel far away. They're heavier than air and travel along the ground.

They may seep down to another floor.

If they meet a flame... Watch Out!



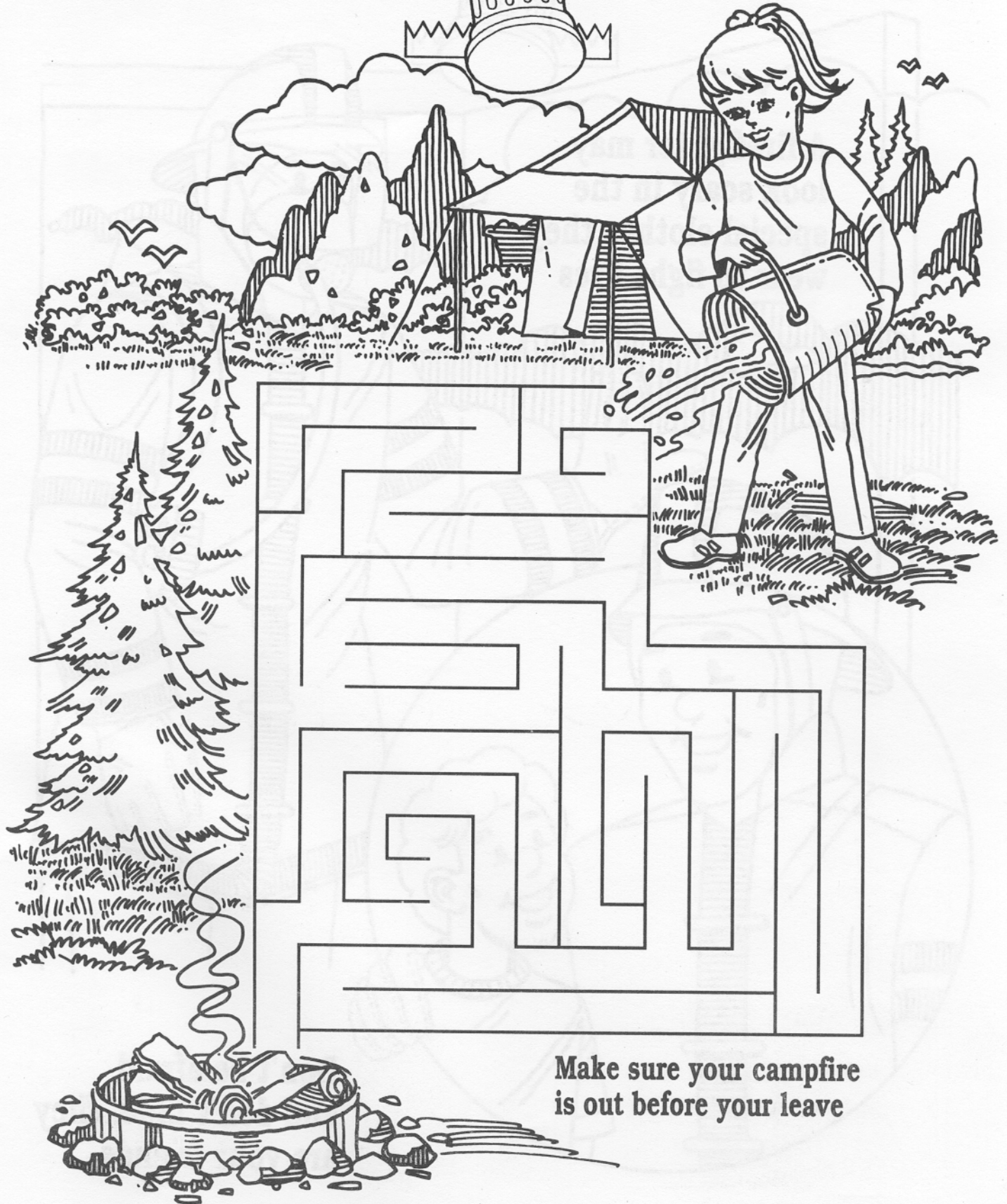
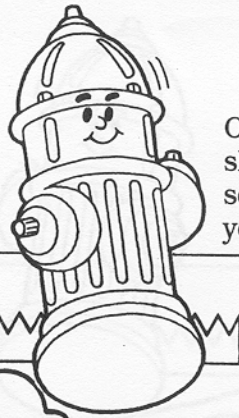
## STORAGE



Keep gasoline and other flammables in safe outside storage

# Practice Outdoor Safety

Outdoor fire safety rules are habits that should be established with children early, so they can use them throughout the years to come.

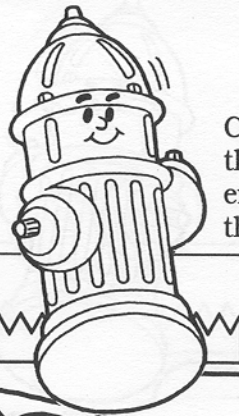


**Make sure your campfire  
is out before you leave**



# Firefighters are our Friends

Children may not see a firefighter before the panic and confusion of an actual emergency situation. It is important that they realize firefighters are there to help.

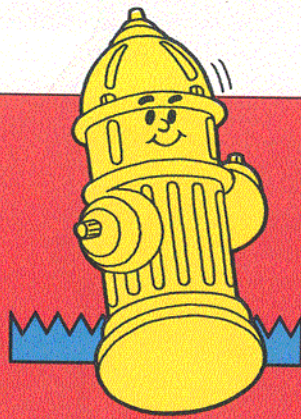


A firefighter may look scary in the special clothes they wear to fight fires



Don't be afraid  
and don't hide, they  
are your friends

# Fire Prevention Week



# Your Fire Department

**A** fire that started on October 9, 1871 when Mrs. O'Leary's cow kicked over a coal oil lantern clearly pointed out the need for public fire safety awareness. The fire started in the barn and soon spread to surrounding homes and buildings. Before long, much of Chicago was on fire. What became known as the the Great Chicago Fire killed 300 people, burned down 20,000 homes and buildings and left nearly 100,000 people homeless. In 1922, the President of the United States proclaimed the first Fire Prevention Week, to be observed the week of October 9th, "by every man, woman and child, not only during this week but throughout every hour of every week of the year."

Every year, people in North America observe Fire Prevention Week. In Alberta, the tradition goes back to 1929 with an extensive campaign by the predecessor of the present Fire Prevention Branch of Alberta Labour. Today, fire departments across the province promote Fire Prevention Week in their communities to remind people about the importance of fire safety.

**E**veryone knows about the fire department that services their community — at least when they hear the sirens or pass a burned building. But did you know that your local fire department is also a very valuable resource. In addition to putting out fires, many fire departments:

- help children learn about fire safety
- assist schools in teaching fire prevention
- volunteer time and energy to assist in community events
- provide emergency medical services and first aid training
- help out during natural disasters, car accidents and other emergencies
- provide fire inspections to homes and businesses
- investigate fires

The fire department in your community is a group of men and women who are dedicated to protecting lives and property from fire. They are at your service 24 hours a day, every day of the year. They protect people, homes, schools and businesses, and they improve the quality of life in your community by making it a safer place in which to live.

If you have any questions about fire safety, give your local fire department a call.