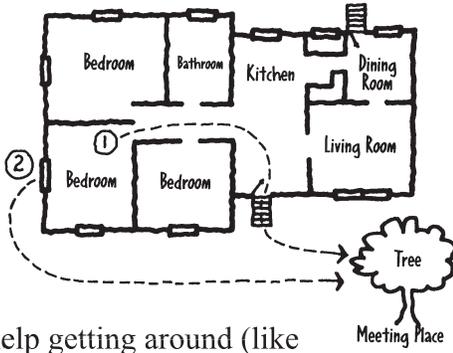


Plan & Practice Your Escape!

Escape Planning

- Start by walking through your home and identifying two ways out of every room (one way might be the door and the other might be the window).
- Draw out your escape plan so you can post it where everyone in the family can see it. Use the planning grids included here, and don't forget to show the two exits from each room.
- Make sure that all exits are clear of toys, furniture and other clutter.
- Does someone in your house need help getting around (like a grandparent or an infant)? Make sure that they have someone to assist them in case of a fire.
- Pick one outside meeting place where everyone can gather after they've escaped safely. Make sure that you mark the spot you've picked on your escape plan.
- Make sure that everyone knows to get out of the house first and then, call 9-1-1 from outside or from a neighbor's house.



itself. To keep from breathing it (and possibly, knocking yourself out), crawl low under the smoke on your hands and knees.

- Close the door behind you to slow the spread of fire and smoke.

Smoke Alarms

- Your home should have smoke alarms on every level (even the basement). It's especially important to have them inside or near every sleeping area.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month.
- Batteries should be replaced every year, or when you hear the smoke alarm "chirping" -- that means the battery is low.
- Smoke alarms should be replaced every 10 years. And if no one can remember how old it is, it's probably time to replace it.
- Never paint or decorate a smoke alarm (even with stickers!) because this could keep it from working.
- Make sure that everyone in your home knows the sound of the smoke alarm, and what to do if it goes off. Sound the alarm at night to make sure that everyone wakes up. If they don't, make sure to factor that into the escape plan.
- When the alarm sounds, get out. Always assume that the alarm means a real fire, and follow your escape plan.



Need Help?

For **more information** about escape planning and smoke alarms, see the National Fire Protection Association's web sites at www.firepreventionweek.org or www.sparky.org.

For **home safety surveys** and **smoke alarm installations**, contact your local fire department.

School _____

Teacher _____

Grade _____

Name _____

Return the Plan to Class and Win a Party!



Your firefighters are sponsoring this contest in hopes of encouraging families to plan and practice a safe fire escape. Follow the directions outlined on the attached sheet and return the plan to your child's teacher. At each school, one classroom -- the one with the highest percentage of accurate and complete fire escape plans -- will win their choice of an ice cream or pizza party served by your firefighters!



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