



Children's Burn Foundation

*Giving New HOPE*

## **Facts About Burns and Burn Prevention**

- At 155°F it takes only one second for a child to get a third degree burn. A fresh cup of coffee is served at 180°F or higher.
- Children's skin is thinner than adults and therefore burns more easily.
- Scalds are the leading cause of burn injury for children.
- 60 -75% of burns to children occur before the age of five.
- More than 80% of burns to children are preventable.
- Fire deaths of young children are primarily caused by children playing with fire ( i.e. lighters and matches).
- In the U.S., 250,000 children, aged 0-17, are burned seriously enough each year to require medical attention.
  - 15,000 are hospitalized with burn injuries;
  - 1,100 die from fire and burn injuries;
  - 200,000 are burned by contact with hot substances and objects.

### **Common Scald/Contact Burn Injuries Include**

- Hot food or beverage spills on child/toddler.
- Hot water from the tap. A child turns on hot water faucet or an inexperienced caretaker fails to test hot water temperature.
- Clothing irons. A young child touches or falls against hot iron.
- A child touches oven/fire place doors or heating element.
- Hair curling iron. A child grasps the hot hair curler.
- BBQ/Fire pit. A child touches a hot BBQ, falls against the BBQ or into a fire pit.

## **Burn Prevention Tips**

- Keep hot liquids and foods away from children.
- Do not leave children unattended in the bathroom or kitchen.
- Set water heater to 120°F.