A fire is FAST, HOT, DARK and DEADLY.

In a typical home fire, families have only about 2 minutes to escape to safety. Even when children have learned the steps to take to escape a burning house, without practice, they can panic.

To protect your children:

1) Meet with your family and create a fire escape plan. *(A worksheet is on the reverse side of this card)*

2) Review and talk about the simple, but life-saving safety tips below.

3) Most important, **PRACTICE** the plan with your family. **PRACTICE** all of the safety tips below including crawling on the floor and following the escape plan with each child from their room to your designated meeting place.

**PREPARE**

- Install smoke alarms on every level, corridors leading to sleeping areas and in all bedrooms.
- Test them once a month and change the battery twice each year. Smoke alarms are inexpensive and save lives.
- Sleep with bedroom doors closed.

**ESCAPING FROM FIRE**

- If a fire breaks out in your home, remember the following tips:
  - Check the door with the back of your hand - if you feel heat, use your second exit.
  - If there is smoke, crawl on your hands and knees to the nearest exit.
  - Teach children how to get out of the house.
  - Call 9-1-1 from a neighbor’s house.
  - NEVER go back into a burning house. GET OUT AND STAY OUT!

**IF YOU ARE TRAPPED IN A ROOM**

- Stay low near the door or window.
- Put blankets, rugs or pillows at the bottom of the door to keep out smoke.
- Signal out of the window with a sheet, towel or flashlight.

**PRACTICE**

- Count all family members at your meeting place.
- If someone is missing, tell the firefighters where that person may be. **NEVER go back inside.**

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Using the grid on the reverse side of this card, draw a floor plan or map of your home. Discuss with your family at least 2 ways to get out of every room and choose a safe place outside of your house or apartment building for family members to meet. Having a meeting place will let you know that everyone has gotten out safely, and no one will get hurt looking for someone who is already safe.

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Talk with your family about what to do in the event of a fire:

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An Important Safety Message from the Children’s Burn Foundation

5000 Van Nuys Blvd., Suite 210 • Sherman Oaks, CA 91403 • (818) 907-2822 • childburn.org
PLAN YOUR ESCAPE

Getting Started:

- Draw a floor plan or map of your home.
- Show all doors and windows.
- Mark two ways out of each room.
- Mark all smoke alarms with SA.
- Pick a family meeting place outside.
- Remember – PRACTICE your plan at least twice a year

For more information on home escape plans, call your local fire department.