

# Prevent Youth Firesetting



**Children are often curious about fire. While curiosity is normal, there are things you can do to prevent your child from experimenting with fire.**

Teach your child:

- ▶ Fire is dangerous.
- ▶ Even small fires can spread very quickly.
- ▶ Fire is a tool, not a toy, and must only be used by adults.

## **You can make your home safer by:**

- ✔ Inspecting it for fire hazards.
- ✔ Keeping lighters and matches away from children.
- ✔ Supervising children.
- ✔ Having working smoke alarms on every level and inside and outside all sleeping areas.
- ✔ Planning and practicing your home fire escape plan.

If you feel that your child is at a higher risk of experimenting with fire, contact your local fire department. Many fire departments have programs to teach your child about fire safety.

For more information and free fire-safety resources, visit  
**[www.usfa.fema.gov](http://www.usfa.fema.gov)**.

