

Guidelines for Fire Drills in Child Care Homes

CALL 911 FOR FIRE OR MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

1. Plan two escape routes from each room of the home, one the normal exit, the other a different door or window.
2. Write out your escape plan and rehearse it monthly.
3. Activate smoke detector so children become adjusted to the sound and respond accordingly.
4. Teach children that they SHOULD NOT hide under beds or in closets.
5. Imagine the room is filled with smoke. Children should practice crawling low.
6. Close doors against smoke and heat. If door is closed, test it before opening by feeling near the top. If the door is hot, use the emergency exit.
7. Save the lives instead of the property. In a fire situation, evacuate children from the home, then notify the Fire Department from a safe location.
8. In a multiple story home, evacuate upper floors first.
9. Set a predetermined meeting place outdoors so you know that everyone is safe. This may be at a neighbor's house or yard.
10. Teach children to STOP-DROP & ROLL if their clothes catch on fire. Practice regularly.
11. Once the building is evacuated, remain outside.
12. Evacuation should be completed within three minutes.

- Drills should be done at least once each month -

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