



The Birthday Cake Mistake

Description

The fire and rescue service encourages children to know that playing with matches and lighters can be dangerous. This lesson plan provides an opportunity to listen to and read the Birthday Cake Mistake story, a fire safety story which promotes the safe use of matches and lighters by adults. It also provides an opportunity to discuss the need for smoke alarms and escape plans at home and includes linked activities which help with personal, social and emotional development.

General Information

Session Focus / Theme – Fire Safety at Home	Recommended Key Stage / Age – Early Years and Foundation / 3-5
English Curriculum Focus – Literacy and Reading	Timing – 50 Minutes

Preparation

- Resources – The Birthday Cake Mistake story book, narrative support document, storyboard sort worksheet, worksheet for finger puppets (colour or black and white version) and make your own folded story worksheet.
- Teacher notes – Through reading the story of 'The Birthday Cake Mistake' pupils will learn that matches and lighters are dangerous and are only for adult use. They will also learn about smoke alarms detecting a fire and that best practice is to get everyone out of the home safely and calling 999 in such an emergency.

Other Cross-curricular links

Pupils will also use skills in;

- Communication and Language – Listening, attention, speaking and understanding
- Personal, social and emotional development – Self-confidence and self-awareness; talk about their ideas. Managing behaviour and feelings; talk about behaviour, its consequences and what is unacceptable
- Understanding of the world – The World; understand their environment and ways to be safe and healthy. Technology; recognise a range of technologies and their uses





Key Vocabulary

Matches Lighters Fire and Rescue Service Smoke Alarm Emergency
Safe Dangerous

Pupil Learning Objective

I will know why I should only let adults use matches and lighters.

Teacher Expectations

By the end of the lesson pupils will;

Know...

About matches and lighters being a tool for adults to use and that 999 is the emergency number to call

Understand...

The consequences of playing with matches and why a smoke alarm emits a warning sound

Be able to...

Speak in front of others and imagine possibilities, connecting ideas and explaining worrying events and how a safety plan could help

Expected Progress

Pupils will be exceeding expectations if they are able to confidently talk about the events, concerns and counter actions the children in the story could have taken. This lesson can precede or follow the lesson on 'Hot or Not?'. Pupils will identify safe or dangerous items to help build knowledge and understanding about household items which are tools and for adult use only. They will understand why a smoke alarm would sound and what action to take in such an emergency.

Introduction

The story can be narrated by either the class teacher or the local Fire Service Officer if a visit can be arranged. Children can also contribute to the development of the story by engaging with the pictures. The book is designed to be used in small groups or the whole class. We have supplied a full-length version of the story in the narrative support document for reference. There are also two differentiated levels of the narrative and key questions. Teaching points have been given on the narrative description pages to support learning development.

To begin the lesson, read the story using the pictures of the book displayed for the children to see.





Main Activity

What	How
Challenge	Listen to the story and confidently answer the key questions or retell the main events within the story with support of an adult.
Awesome Challenge	Read the story with limited support to sound the words and comprehend the events, actions and explain confidently what was the mistake and who made it.
Mega Challenge	Read the story in pairs taking turns to sound the words correctly and agree the way in which the story board activity should be reordered, colouring this in and discussing in pairs what they have learnt.
Colossal Challenge	Read the story independently and complete the storyboard activity, colouring in the pictures, annotating what they have learnt, and showing others the main events as a timeline.

Plenary

Ask as a whole group or class;

What did Katy do wrong? What should she have done? What did Katy do that was dangerous?

Do you think her mummy will be disappointed with her? Why?

What do you think Ben should have done when Katy suggested playing the game? Why?

What is a safe thing to do when a smoke alarm sounds? Why is this? What number do you call if there is an emergency?

Assessment for Learning

Confirm the answers given demonstrate an understanding of ways to play safely. Can the pupils identify other similar dangerous objects that are for adults use only? Can they answer in their own words what they have learnt from Katy and Ben's story? This story links well with; 'The Finger Puppet Lesson', 'Hot and Cold Lesson Plan', 'People who help Us' or; 'Frances the Firefly Story' and could be followed by a visit from a local fire service representative.

Home Learning

The story can be accessed at home via www.StayWise.co.uk and read by the pupil to others. The extra activity which creates a folded version of the story could be taken home and completed. The story could be retold or acted out at home with a possible safe ending of Ben explaining to Katy the dangers of using real matches and the possible consequences. If using online sharing applications, any of this could be captured by video or photo and shared with the school if appropriate.



