

## **FIRE!**

Every year thousands of people die in fires. They die from being burned, and they die from breathing in smoke. More people die in the United States from fires than from any other natural disaster. Most of those fires are “home fires” – fires that are started inside the home. Most home fires are caused by cigarettes. Many other home fires start in the kitchen.

It is possible to prevent almost all home fires from being deadly, just by following a few simple rules:



1. Nobody should smoke in the house; or, if they do, they should be absolutely certain that every cigarette and all of the ashes are extinguished (put out).
2. Food that is cooking should be carefully watched. Food should never be left cooking on the stove top.
3. Every home should have smoke alarms and fire extinguishers or automatic sprinklers.
4. Everybody in the home should know basic fire safety.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**ANSWER THE QUESTIONS ABOUT *FIRE!***

1. According to the article, most fires are...
  - a. started in homes.
  - b. started in the woods.
  - c. started in the kitchen.
  - d. started with smoke.
  
2. People die in fires because...
  - a. they shouldn't smoke.
  - b. they don't watch their food.
  - c. they are burned or they breathe in smoke.
  - d. they don't call the fire department.
  
3. Most fires can be prevented by...
  - a. not cooking and having a fire extinguisher.
  - b. sprinkling fires with glitter.
  - c. not smoking and paying attention when cooking.
  - d. having a fire extinguisher.

Do you know what to do if there is a fire in your home? Write about your fire safety plan:

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Write complete sentences to answer the questions below.**

1. Imagine a fire at a friend's house. Describe what you would do.

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2. Tell how the article reminds you of an experience you have had.

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3. After reading the story what do you think is meant by ***extinguish***?

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4. What did you learn about fire safety that you did not know?  
How might this new learning be useful to you?

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## **ANSWERS TO *FIRE!***

### **Multiple-choice:**

1. a
2. c
3. c (it is not D, because *having* an extinguisher does not *prevent* the fire).

### **Short-answer:**

1. Answers may vary; accept reasonable answers.
2. Answers may vary; accept reasonable answers.
3. ***Extinguish*** = to quench or put out a fire
4. Answers may vary; accept reasonable answers.