

H E A L T H

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Keeping Your Home Safe

Electrical Safety

We all enjoy our microwaves, TVs, and toasters. But, these items can start a fire or cause an electrical shock if they are not properly used. There are steps you can take to prevent accidents from happening. Follow these tips:

- Replace any cut or damaged cords. If you touch a piece of wire, you may get an electric shock or burn.
- Keep electrical appliances away from water. If you touch an appliance, electrical outlet, or switch with wet hands, you can get an electrical shock. So, keep electrical appliances away from wet areas. Electricity and water do not mix!
- Try not to use extension cords. If you do use one, use it only for a specific job.
 Do not run an extension cord through doorways, walls, or floors. Do not cover
 it with a carpet or heavy furniture. If you cover it, the heat from the cord
 cannot escape. Over time the cord can break and the wires can cause a fire.
- Plug in one appliance at a time especially if it is a high wattage appliance. Examples of high-wattage appliances are hair dryers, irons, and air conditioners. Other highwattage items are water heaters, microwaves, and space heaters. When you have many high-wattage appliances plugged into one outlet you can cause a fire. Be careful!
- Cover any outlets that are not being used if you have children. This will prevent children from trying to put their fingers into the outlet. Putting fingers in an outlet may cause an electrical shock.

What if something happens?

If someone gets an electrical shock, do not touch the person. Turn off the source of the electricity. Call 911 if the person:

- Is unconscious
- Feels numbness or tingling
- Feels pain in their muscles
- Has problems breathing
- Has a seizure
- Has a burn

Cooking Safety

Accidents from ovens, stoves, and heating appliances cause many injuries and fires every year. You can prevent injuries and fires in your home if you:

- Watch children when they are in the kitchen. Turn the handles of pots and pans away from the front of the stove. You do not want children to reach up for the handles.
- Stay in the kitchen while you are cooking. Use a timer to remind yourself that the oven is on if you leave the kitchen.

Vocabulary

Carbon monoxide

ApplianceElectric shock

Wattage

- Keep items that could catch on fire away from the oven and stove. Things such as oven mitts, wooden spoons, and towels can easily catch on fire.
- Grease can start a fire. Try to use little oil, butter, or cooking spray while cooking. Always wipe up any oil that spills on the stove. If oil spills on the edge of the pan,
 - clean it right away with a wet cloth. If a fire does start, DO NOT pour water on it. Water will make the fire bigger. It can spread throughout the kitchen and even on to you. If the fire is in the pan, put a lid on it.
- Do not use your oven, stove, or grill to heat your home. If the flame goes out, the gas can leak out which can make people sick. This is called carbon monoxide poisoning.

If you have a woodstove or fireplace chimney, make sure it is working properly. It must take all the smoke outside. If the fireplace or chimney is not working, it can also cause carbon monoxide poisoning.

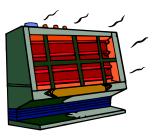
Heating Safety

Many people use space heaters to heat their homes. Newer space heaters are made to be safe. But accidents can still happen. Follow these steps when using space heaters:



Gases, such as propane, can cause carbon monoxide poisoning. This can quickly make you feel dizzy, tired, and confused, and can even cause death. Make sure you stay safe by taking these steps:

- Keep gas generators away from your home's windows, doors, and vents.
- Make sure stoves and ovens are in the OFF position.
- Use a carbon monoxide alarm in your home. It will warn you if you have a leak in your home.



- Keep items such as clothes, blankets, and paper products at least 3 feet (1 meter) away from the heater.
- Keep your children away from the heater. They may stick their fingers or other objects into the heater. They can get an electrical shock or start a fire and that could lead to more serious problems such as burns.

Vocabulary & Definitions

Appliance: An item that uses electricity to do a household task. Some examples are: microwaves, ovens,

or. toasters.

Electrical shock: Happens when electricity flows through a person's body. People who get an electrical shock may feel a tingling sensation, contractions in their muscles, chest pain, or may not be

able to move.

Carbon monoxide: A colorless, poisonous gas that has no smell. Gas appliances like ovens, dryers, and air conditioners can cause carbon monoxide.

Wattage: The amount of power, or electricity, an appliance uses. For example, a microwave oven uses between 750-1100 watts. This is the amount of power a microwave needs to work.

Keeping Your Home Safe

Lesson Plan

Materials needed	Handouts	Estimated time
 Dry erase board and 	"Keeping Your Home Safe" Lesson	• 1 hour
dry erase markers	"Listening Activity" Handout	
 Pencils 	Skills Practice Worksheet	
	Pre-Assessment and Post-Assessment	
	Answer Key	

NOTE TO INSTRUCTOR: To accommodate the literacy levels and educational experiences of the participants, oral and/or group activities may be substituted for reading, writing, skills practice, and survey activities.

Elements	Activities	Notes
Preparation	Introduce the topic Time: 5 minutes	 How do you think appliances can cause accidents? What can you do to prevent accidents from happening with electrical outlets and cords? What can you do to prevent accidents from happening while cooking?
	Conduct the Pre-Assessment Time: 5 minutes	Distribute Pre-Assessment, and ask them to turn it in when it is complete.
	Introduce the new vocabulary Time: 5 minutes	Write the vocabulary words on the board, and ask the students to read them aloud. Ask the students if they know what they mean. Provide students with the definitions. Use "Keeping Your Home Safe" lesson.
Instructions	 Read the lesson "Keeping Your Home Safe". Time: 10 minutes 	Instructor leads guided reading of topic.
	Identify the vocabulary words in the lesson Time: 5 minutes	Students identify the vocabulary words by circling them in the lesson.
	Distribute and review the Skills Practice Worksheet with the students and ask them to complete it. Use the Answer Key sheet to verify the correct answers. Time: 25 minutes	 Activity 1: Students have 10 minutes to complete this activity. Activity 2: Students have 10 minutes to complete this activity. Activity 3: Students have 5 minutes to complete this activity.
Concept Check	Conduct Post-Assessment Time: 5 minutes	Students complete Post-Assessment.

Keeping Your Home Safe Listening Activity

Listening Activity

Purpose: To practice listening comprehension

Time: 5 minutes

- 1. Tell your students that in this activity they will practice their listening comprehension skills.
- 2. State that you are going to read five different sentences twice.
- 3. Let them know that after you finish reading the sentence for the second time, they need to decide if the sentence is True or False.
- 4. At the end, check the students' answers to make sure they are correct. If some students do not have the right answer, invite other students to participate in the discussion until the information is clear.

True or False?

	Statement		False
1.	You are not in danger if you touch an appliance when your hands are wet.		✓
2.	Outlets should be covered so kids can be safe at home.	✓	
3.	If someone gets an electrical shock, you should not touch the person.	✓	
4.	You should not leave the kitchen while cooking.	✓	
5.	A carbon monoxide alarm can warn you if there is carbon monoxide gas in your home.	✓	



Keeping Your Home Safe

Skills Practice Worksheet

Name:	
Date:	

Activity 1: Let's Read!

It was Pablo's turn to cook tonight. He decided to fry some potatoes. He put plenty of oil into the pan. He heated it up until the oil was very hot. He grabbed a handful of potatoes and threw them into the pan. The oil splashed everywhere. Suddenly the pan was on fire. Pablo poured water on the pan with the hot oil and potatoes. He thought the water would help to calm down the fire. But the flames got worse. Then he tried to take the pan outside. He dropped the pan because it was so hot. The oil splashed everywhere causing the fire to spread throughout the whole house. The fire caused a lot of damage.

1.	How did the fire start?
2.	How could Pablo have prevented this accident from happening?

Activity 2: Connect the Sentences

Build the correct sentence by drawing a line from the column on the left to the one on the right.

- a. Replace cut or
- b. Do not run an extension cord through
- c. Turn the handles of pots and pans toward the back of the stove



- - d. If you leave your gas oven on and the flame goes out, the gas can leak out. The leak may
 - e. Keep items like clothes, blankets, and paper products at least 3 feet (1 meter)

- 1. ...so that children cannot grab them.
- 2. ...cause people to get sick from carbon monoxide.
- 3. ...away from heaters.
- 4. ...damaged cords.
- 5. ...doorways, walls, or floors.

Activity 3: Listening True or False?

Listen to your teacher's instructions carefully and mark the correct answer.

Statement	True	False
1	0	0
2	0	0
3	0	0
4	0	0
5	0	0

Activity 1: Let's Read!

It was Pablo's turn to cook tonight. He decided to fry some potatoes. He put plenty of oil into the pan. He heated it up until the oil was very hot. He grabbed a handful of potatoes and threw them into the pan. The oil splashed everywhere. Suddenly the pan was on fire. Pablo poured water on the pan with the hot oil and potatoes. He thought the water would help to calm down the fire. But the flames got worse. Then he tried to take the pan outside. He dropped the pan because it was so hot. The oil splashed everywhere causing the fire to spread throughout the whole house. The fire caused a lot of damage.

How did the fire start?

Pablo threw the potatoes into the pan. The oil splashed everywhere. The oil caught on fire because it touched the flames of the burner. The flames got worse when he poured water on the grease fire.

How could Pablo have prevented this accident?
 He could have put a lid on the pan right away. He should not have poured water on the fire.

Activity 2: Connect the Sentences

Correct answers:

a. – 4

b. -5

c. -1

d. -2

e. -3

Activity 3: Listening

Listen to your teacher's instructions carefully and mark the correct answer.

Statement		False
1. You are not in danger if you touch an appliance when your hands are wet.		\checkmark
2. Outlets should be covered so kids can be safe at home.	✓	
3. If someone gets an electrical shock, you should not touch the person.	✓	
4. You should not leave the kitchen while cooking.	✓	
A carbon monoxide alarm can warn you if there is carbon monoxide gas in your home.	✓	



Keeping Your Home Safe Pre-Assessment

Date:	 _
Name:	 _

	Circle the co	rrect answer.
1. Can appliances such as microwaves, TVs, and toasters start a fire or cause an electrical shock if they are not used in the right way?	Yes	No
2. If someone gets an electrical shock, you should:	 a. not touch the b. turn off the electricity c. call 911 if tounconscious d. all of the about 	source of the person is
3. You are cooking and the oil in the pan is on fire. You can stop the fire by:	pouring water on it	putting a lid on it
4. Carbon monoxide is a colorless, poisonous gas that has no smell.	True	False
5. You can prevent a fire from happening if you keep clothes, blankets, and paper products at least 3 feet (1 meter) away from the heater.	Yes	No
	Total Corre	ect:



Keeping Your Home Safe Post-Assessment

Date:	
Name:	

		Circle the co	rrect answer.
1.	Can appliances such as microwaves, TVs, and toasters start a fire or cause an electrical shock if they are not used in the right way?	Yes	No
2.	If someone gets an electrical shock, you should:	a. not touch theb. turn off the electricityc. call 911 if tunconscioud. all of the about	source of the person is
3.	You are cooking and the oil in the pan is on fire. You can stop the fire by:	pouring water on it	putting a lid on it
4.	Carbon monoxide is a colorless, poisonous gas that has no smell.	Yes	No
5.	You can prevent a fire from happening if you keep clothes, blankets, and paper products at least 3 feet (1 meter) away from the heater.	Yes	No
6.	What steps can you take to cook safely?		
		Total Corre	ect: