

# Firework safety: lessons for little ones

There's no substitute for good adult supervision when it comes to preschoolers and fireworks. Even sparklers burn many times hotter than a kettle of boiling water! But you can start teaching them how to stay safe. Use our safety messages and activity ideas to make firework safety fun!

## Safety messages

- Fireworks are exciting, but they can be very dangerous and can hurt you. Listen to your grown-up about where is a safe place to stand.
- Never touch a firework. Don't pick up a firework after it has been used.
- Wear your gloves when you hold your sparkler and keep it away from your body.
- Hold one sparkler at a time.
- Keep your sparkly sparkler safely away from other people and don't run around with it.
- Don't throw your sparkler in case it hits someone.
- Once your sparkler is finished, put it into a bucket of water, don't pick it back up. It stays hot for a long time and can burn you.
- Stand well away from the bonfire and stay close to the grown-ups.
- Don't be tempted to throw things into the bonfire or poke at it with sticks.
- Practice your **STOP, DROP** and **ROLL** before your fireworks celebrations.

More advice here:

[www.capt.org.uk/firework-safety](http://www.capt.org.uk/firework-safety)

## Activity ideas

- Build on your work teaching children about hot and cold. Using pictures of hot things (including sparklers, fireworks, bonfires) and cold things (including a bucket of water to put used sparklers in) develop some simple games around matching/difference e.g. pairs, snap, spot the difference.
- Encourage children to make safety posters. You can print out pictures for children to use. Or use their bonfire night paintings and crafts as part of a fireworks safety display in your setting.
- At circle time ask the children questions:
  - What should you wear on your hands if you are holding a sparkler?
  - Should you run around when you are holding a sparkler?
  - What should you do with a sparkler when it has gone out?
  - You must never touch fireworks. Why not?
  - Why should you stand well away from the bonfire?
- Role play children sitting at a safe distance behind a rope around a firepit or pretend bonfire.
- Practice **STOP, DROP** and **ROLL**.

## STOP, DROP and ROLL

If your clothes catch fire **STOP, DROP** and **ROLL**:

1. **STOP** what you're doing.
2. **DROP** to the ground and cover your face with your hands.
3. **ROLL** over and over to put out the flames.