



Hello friends! My name is Spot the fire dog. I am going to join you for your visit to the Ava Rural Fire Department. This is fire safety week, so let's see what we can learn!!

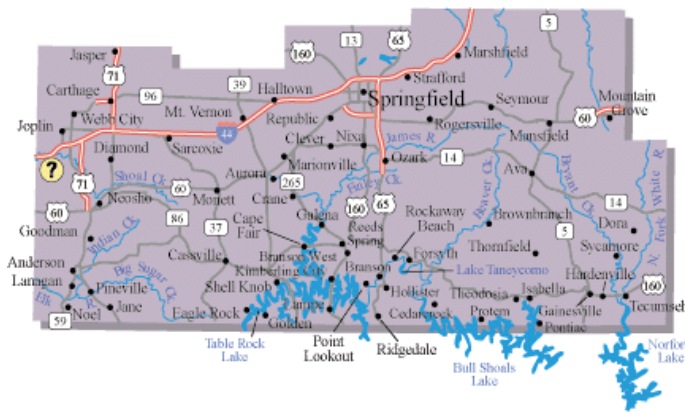
Oh no!! There's the telephone and it is ringing one long ring. Let's find out who it is and what is going on! The fire bar telephone number rings the firefighters' telephones. It is one long ring that doesn't stop until someone picks up the phone.

Let's listen to see if we can hear what they are saying.

Mrs. Murray answers the telephone. "Ava Rural Fire Department. Yes. What is your name? What is your address? What is your phone number? How do you get to your house? Is the fire close to the house? OK, the men will be on their way."



Mrs. Murray hangs up the phone and turns to the fire chief, Mr. Murray. Mr. Murray has been changing his clothes, putting on his boots and putting a special radio on his belt so that he can talk to Mrs. Murray and the other firefighters. Mrs. Murray tells him where the fire is, then starts calling the other firefighters. Mr. Murray jumps into his pickup, turns on his siren and blue flashing light and heads off to the fire.



Meanwhile, Mrs. Murray is calling the other firefighters and giving them directions to the fire. She will talk to them on the radio until they get to the fire to make sure that they have the right directions.

When Mr. Murray and the other firefighters get to the fire, they have a lot of work to do! Let's follow along quietly and learn what the

firefighters have to do!

Here is a picture of a pumper truck. This is the truck you will see most of the time. A pumper truck is about 30 feet long and can carry some water to the fires to help the firefighters put out the fire. The Ava Rural Fire Department uses their pumper truck in most house or building fires and some of the brush or field fires.



Here is a tanker truck. This truck holds more water than a pumper truck. It is used both in building fires and brush fires.

The Ava Rural Fire Department also has a brush truck. This truck is made to go over rocks, through fields and to where ever the fire might be. The firefighters keep rakes and blowers that look like leaf blowers on the brush truck. They use the blowers to blow the fire back on to the ground that has already burned so that the fire will put itself out. A fire must have something to burn to be able to keep going. So, if all of the grass and brush is already burned, the fire will go out.

The firefighters will stay at the fire until the fire is out, or until it is under control and will put itself out. When a house or building burns, the fire marshal has to be called to investigate or find out what started the fire. Fires are dangerous things!



Fighting fires is hard work! It takes two or more firefighters to hold a hose! When the water hose is turned on, the water comes out so fast and hard that one person cannot hold onto the hose alone and move it around.

After the fire is put out, and the firefighters go back to the fire house, there is more work to be done! The water hoses have to be emptied of all of the water and dried out. The firefighters usually lay the hoses out in the fire house to let them dry. After the hose is dry, it must be rolled up and put back on the fire truck for the next fire. The firefighters also make sure that the gas tanks for all of the trucks are full, and fill up the water tanks in the trucks so that they are ready for another fire. The fire trucks have to be kept clean and in good repair so that they are ready whenever someone needs help!



A fire fighter has special clothes to wear to protect him when he is working in a fire. He wears a special hat called a helmet to protect him from things that may fall onto his head. He carries a tank on his back full of oxygen with a mask over his face so that he can breath without getting smoke into his nose. Firefighters often have to use an ax to cut a hole in doors or the roof to get into the building. His clothes are made of special material that will not burn so he will not catch on fire!



Preventing Fires Is Always Best!! Let's learn about some ways we can keep fires from starting!

Lightning can start fires! Do not stand under a tree during a thunder and lightning storm.

Never grab a hot pan off of the stove. The pan could spill on you and cause you to have a burn! Burns hurt bad! Always make sure the pan handles on the stove are turned in toward the wall or cabinets. Do not leave them turned toward the front of the stove. Someone may accidentally knock them off of the stove and get hurt! Do not put papers on the stove! They could catch on fire. Do not cook without a grownup. They can help you be safe!



Do you know what a smoke alarm is? A smoke alarm is a round thing that goes on the ceiling and makes a loud noise when there is smoke in the air. There should be a smoke alarm on every floor of your house and in every bedroom. When heat, smoke and poisonous



gases reach the alarm early in the fire, they will sound the alarm. A smoke alarm warns you that a fire has started in the house! The alarm tells you that you and your family need to get out of the house **fast**. **DO NOT** take time to look for your favorite toys. You must get out immediately. Always have good batteries in all smoke alarms. Ask your parents to help you test your smoke alarms every month and change the batteries every 6 months.

NEVER play with matches or cigarette lighters!! Fire spreads fast, even when you are careful. If you find matches or lighters, give them to your parents or another grownup. They will know what to do with them. No one should ever



smoke in bed! If they fall asleep while they are smoking, their sheets and blankets may catch on fire!

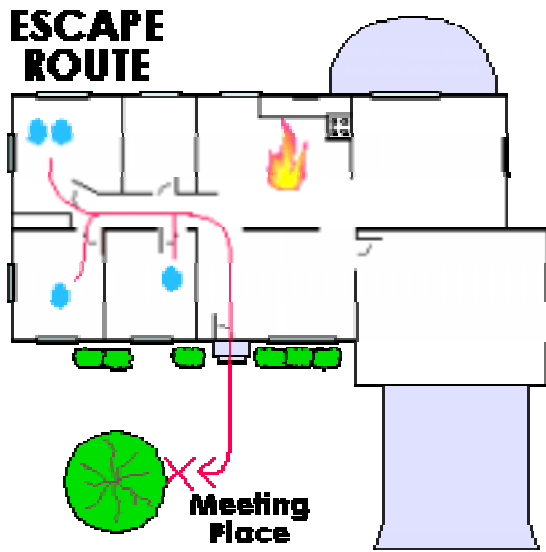
Make sure your house has fire extinguishers upstairs and downstairs. There should also be one in the garage. Your Mother and Father should know how to make these work and make sure that they are in a safe place.



Do not plug more than 2 things into a plug in. Plug ins can get too hot and cause an electrical fire. Never poke a toy or other object into a plug in!!!

Hot, dry weather makes it easier for fires to burn. Never throw a cigarette or a match out of the window—it can cause a big fire and burn a lot of people's fields and even homes! When you and your family are burning some land to get ready to plant your crops, make sure the wind is not blowing, the ground is not dry and you have water nearby in case the fire gets out of control. When you are burning trash, stay close by to make sure the fire does not jump out of the trash can and catch the grass on fire.

Ask your parents to help you plan and practice fire drills in your home. Plan and practice for a safe escape. It is always best to have two exits from every room, ESPECIALLY BEDROOMS! Have your parents show you how to unlock & open your windows, and then ask them to help you practice climbing out windows in your bedroom.



Learn how to do it safely. If you have to break the glass to get out, remember: broken glass is dangerous. Ask your family to sit down and draw a plan of how to escape from all of the rooms in your house in case you have a fire. Remember to choose a meeting place outside so that everyone will go to the same place when they leave the house. This will let you know when everyone is out of the house and safe! When you

make a plan to escape a fire, practice it 2 or 3 times a year. Have fire drills at home. Firefighters call it EDITH when you have fire drills at home!

Ask your parents to help you learn your emergency fire number! Fill it in here to help you remember it!! _____ (Parents, please keep the number of your fire department, police, doctor, poison control, and ambulance services in a place that not only you know, but also your family!) The fire department will need to know your name, address, how to get to your house, and the phone number where you are calling from. Write in your address and how to get to your house here. Ask your parents to help you with this!

What To Do In Case Of A Fire!

My friend, Cocoa, is going to tell you what to do in case of a fire! I hope you never have a fire, but it is always better to know what to do—just in case!!



Hello boys and girls, my name is Cocoa. I help my friends, the firefighters, fight fire and help little boys and girls like you! Fires can be dangerous, but if you know what to do in case of a fire, you can be safe!!

If you hear your smoke alarm go off, remember to stay calm. Try not to get excited and start screaming. Try to remember what Cocoa taught you!



Smoke makes people have trouble breathing and will make you cough. If you smell smoke, get down on your hands and knees to get away from the smoke. Smoke stays up close to the ceiling. Crawl on your hands and knees to get out.

If you are in a room with the door shut, touch the door before you open it. If it is hot, do not open the door! The fire may be right outside the door. Go to the other exit in the room. Remember, you talked about finding 2 ways to get out of every room in your house!

When you get out of the house, go to the meeting place you planned with your family. They will want to know you are safe!! Someone will need to go to the neighbors house to call for help! The firefighters will get there as quickly as they can after you call them. Remember to tell them who you are, your address, how to get to your house and the phone number you are calling from!



NEVER go back into the house until the firefighters say it's O.K.

If your clothes catch on fire do not run! Running makes a fire burn faster. Remember to **Stop, Drop, and Roll.**



Stop moving, **Drop** onto the ground or floor. Lie down flat. **Roll** on the ground or the floor. You will put out the fire and it will quit burning. You will need to call for help and see a doctor to make sure you are not hurt.

Be sure that your family is a member of the local fire department. If you are a member, the firefighters will fight your fires for you at no additional cost to you or your parents. If you are not a member, the fire department will likely charge your family a fee for fighting the fire. The Ava Rural Fire Department is staffed by volunteers. The people that fight the fires do not get paid to help people. They work other full time jobs just the same as your Mommy and Daddy do. They fight fires to help people in the community. You will find a letter to your parents and a special form for them to fill out to become members of the Ava Rural Fire Department. Talk to your parents about the things you have learned today about fire safety!