



## Task Title: Home Fire Safety

### OALCF Cover Sheet – Learner Copy

**Learner Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date Started:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date Completed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Successful Completion:** Yes ☐ No ☐

**Goal Path:** Employment ☐ Apprenticeship ☐

Secondary School ☐ Post Secondary ☐ Independence ☐

**Task Description:** The learner will read to understand about home fire safety.

#### Main Competency/Task Group/Level Indicator:

- Find and Use Information/Read continuous text/A1.2

#### Materials Required:

- Pen/pencil and paper and/or digital device

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### Learner Information

The Ontario government provides safety information on a variety of topics.  
Scan "Holiday Fire Safety".

## **Holiday Fire Safety**

### **Cooking**

Cooking left unattended is the most common type of cooking fire. If you are cooking at high temperatures or using hot oil, stay in the kitchen while cooking. If you have to leave the kitchen, turn off the stove.

Keep a proper-fitting pot lid near the stove when cooking. If a pot catches fire, slide the lid over the pot and turn off the stove. Do not attempt to move a burning pot.

### **Smoke Alarms**

If a fire starts in your home, early detection is vital to get you and your family out safely. Install a smoke alarm on every storey of your home and outside all sleeping areas – it's the law!

Test your smoke alarms once a month and change the batteries once a year. Working smoke alarms can give you the precious seconds you need to escape.

Make sure everyone knows how to get out safely if a fire occurs.

Many people who die in home fires are overcome by smoke while trying to escape. Having a home fire escape plan is one of the best ways to ensure you and your loved ones get out safely.

Everyone in your home, even guests during visits, should know two ways out of all areas. Assign an adult to help the very young and older adults. Choose a safe meeting place outside, and call the fire department from a cell phone or neighbour's house.

### **Smoking**

Encourage smokers to smoke outside. Careless smoking is the leading cause of fatal fires. If you do allow smoking indoors use large, deep ashtrays that can't be knocked over and make sure cigarette butts are properly extinguished.

### **Candles**

The holidays are an occasion when people like to use candles and that poses an increased risk of fire. Consider using battery-operated or electric flame candles. If using real candles, place them in a sturdy holder and make sure the flame is covered by a glass shade. Keep candles out of reach of children and pets and away from anything that can burn.

## **Alcohol**

Many fire deaths are caused by people cooking or smoking while under the influence of alcohol.

Keep a close eye on any drinkers in your household and make sure all cigarettes are properly extinguished and the stove is off before going to bed.

Visit the Liquor Control Board of Ontario, (LCBO) for information on being a responsible host.

## **Heating Safety**

Have all chimneys cleaned and inspected every year. Have your heating system inspected annually by a qualified service technician.

Keep space heaters at least one metre (3 feet) away from anything that can burn, including curtains, upholstery, clothing and people.

Protect your home from sparks. Use a fire screen around the fireplace. Allow the ashes from your woodstove or fireplace to cool before emptying them into a metal container with a tight-fitting lid. Keep the container outside.

## **Carbon Monoxide Alarms**

Protect your family with carbon monoxide alarms; it's the law in Ontario. If your home has a fuel burning appliance or an attached garage, you must have a working CO alarm adjacent to each sleeping area of the home. For added protection, install one on every storey of your home according to manufacturer's instructions that also identify when CO alarms need to be replaced.

## Work Sheet

**Task 1: How does the most common type of cooking fire happen?**

Answer:

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**Task 2: Fires can spread very, very quickly. Where should you be when you call the fire department?**

Answer:

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**Task 3: There are two safety items that all homes should have by law. What are they?**

Answer:

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**Task 4: How often do chimneys and heating systems need to be inspected?**

Answer:

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