Firework and Bonfire Safety

Year 6

Session Plan for Teachers
## Year 6 Pack Contents

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Introduction

Safety Central is part of West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service and aims to provide safety awareness education to the communities of West Yorkshire through a variety of means.

This school pack is aimed at Year 6 pupils within school and encourages children’s raised awareness of issues related to the Bonfire Night period, whilst incorporating important fire safety messages appropriate to any time of year. Staff from the Fire Service will continue to make school visits to pupils within schools to speak to young people on a range of fire related safety topics, but session packs for Years 4, 6 and 8 are now available for teacher delivery within their individual school timetable when possible, particularly suitable for use in the lead up to Bonfire Night.

New for 2010 was the development of a new suite of products that compliment previous work carried out by West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service when educating and informing young people on Bonfire and Firework safety. Presentations have been created to target pupils in Years 5, 7 and 9 on age related topics relevant to the Bonfire period and are delivered by members of staff from West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service within schools.

Organisations such as the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) have produced a range of interesting resources for use in schools in relation to Fireworks, and the information contained in this session pack compliments such existing resources for use in schools.

For more information on downloadable educational school packs from DTI please see:

www dti.gov.uk/fireworks

Recommendations:

- We suggest that these Year 6 sessions are scheduled to take place in the week prior to the 5th November (Bonfire Night)

- The activities contained within this booklet can be incorporated into your existing school timetable to compliment any work being undertaken

- Activity One and Two can be used as a stand alone lesson plan to cover important safety messages particularly relevant at this time of year

- We recommend Activity Three is allocated the same time as a typical lesson within school (for example 50-60 minutes)

- Refer to Teacher Information Sheets (pages 11 – 15) at the back of this booklet before using the various activities with pupils as a reminder of the key safety messages for discussion
Activity One

Park Scenario – The Firework Code

Task:
- Split the class into groups of four or five
- Teacher or selected pupil to read out Park Scenario (see page 5)
- Working in small groups pupils should decide what parts of the Firework Code the characters are breaking (see page 13)
- Pupils should consider the consequences if Tom and Charlie throw the fireworks

Resources:
- Each group should be given a copy of the ‘Park Scenario’ (page 5) as a reference point
- The Firework Code should be either written on the whiteboard at the front of the class or discussed at the beginning of the session or photocopied for each group
- See Teacher Information Sheets (pages 11-15) for further background information

Discussion points:
Encourage pupils to identify some of the following points:
- Darren – carrying fireworks in his pockets
- Cheaply bought fireworks – probably do not adhere to strict safety regulations and instructions may not be legible
- Lighter – inappropriate for lighting fireworks
- Illegal to light fireworks in a public place
- You have to be 18 to buy fireworks
- Illegal to sell fireworks to anyone under the age of 18

See Page 7 for questions to ask the group
Park Scenario

Tom and Charlie are playing in the park. They spot a group of children from their school who are three years older. The group noisily approaches them and shows them a clip on a mobile phone of youths throwing fireworks. The group point towards an old lady sitting alone on a park bench and complain that she had been shouting at them earlier for nearly knocking her over when they were messing around on their skateboards.

Darren, the oldest of the group, produces a hand full of fireworks from his pockets. He boasts about buying them cheaply from a man parked outside the park gates. He takes out a lighter and dares Tom and Charlie to light the fireworks and throw them under the bench the lady is sitting on to make her ‘jump out of her skin!’"
Questions to ask the group

- Whose fault do you think it would be if Tom and Charlie threw the firework?
  - The individual?
  - The person who sold the fireworks to Darren?
  - The old lady for shouting at them earlier?

- Who could be prosecuted if Tom and Charlie throw the firework?
  - Tom and Charlie – you are criminally responsible for your actions from the age of 10
  - The seller – it is illegal to sell fireworks to anyone under the age of 18. You can face a fine and even a prison sentence for doing so

- Why might Tom and Charlie consider throwing the fireworks?
  - Bullied by the group into doing it
  - Peer pressure
  - Trying to impress the older kids
  - Showing off

- What could the impact on the old lady have been? How may she feel? Would this have any impact on any other areas of her life?
Activity Two

Risk-taking around fireworks

Task:

- Pupils to produce a written piece of work based on risk taking around fireworks or at a Bonfire. This could be in the form of a story, poem, diary entry or cartoon strip for example.

- Pupils should put themselves into the position of someone who has been affected by risk-taking around fireworks or at a Bonfire and the writing should be based on the characters experiences.

Possible ideas could include someone who is:

(a) the victim of a firework attack
(b) burnt at a bonfire
(c) a neighbour of someone who has been misusing fireworks. For example, letting off fireworks dangerously or during the night causing anti-social behaviour
(d) the perpetrator – someone who has caused an accident or injury to another person. How do they feel? Ashamed? Guilty? etc.

Aims and Objectives:

- Pupils will consider the feelings of others and demonstrate thinking from an alternative perspective
- Pupils will use their literacy skills to demonstrate their learning and understanding of risk-taking in relation to fire safety and awareness
Possible Discussion points:

- How do the characters in the story feel?
- What was the risk-taking behaviour that has caused the problem?
- Has anyone else been affected?
- Are the effects short or long term?
- Is there any impact on other areas of the character’s life?

Notes:

- Encourage the use of descriptive language
- Encourage pupils to share their stories with the group
- Encourage discussion regarding the various types of risky behaviour around fireworks

Resources:

- Pen
- Paper or pupil workbooks
Activity Three

Peer pressure role-play

Task:

- Pupils to produce a short piece of drama of around five minutes in duration
- The drama should include evidence of peer pressure related to fireworks and/or Bonfire night. Pupils should include examples of risky behaviour and being pressured into doing certain things
- Pupils to work in groups of around five
- Time should be allocated at the end of the session to enable the groups to perform their piece of work

Aims and Objectives:

- Pupils will consider the consequences of peer pressure
- Pupils will demonstrate their learning from the previous activity’s fire safety information and include reference to key safety messages
- Pupils will use their performance skills to communicate key messages to other members of their group and highlight important issues relating to the possible consequences of peer pressure around the Bonfire period
- Pupils will consider how they handle peer pressure and have the opportunity to discuss how they can avoid becoming involved in dangerous or illegal behaviour

Possible points for inclusion:

- How do the characters in the drama feel?
- Are friendships/relationships affected?
- What was the risk-taking behaviour that has caused the problem?
- What type of peer pressure is evident?
- Is there any damage to person or property?
- Were any injuries apparent from the scene?
Teacher Notes:

- Encourage discussion regarding the various types of risky behaviour around fireworks
- Encourage each group to produce a piece of drama with a difference – this will encourage pupils in the group to take on board a range of key safety messages and ensure each performance is unique

Resources:

- Adequate space for groups to practice and rehearse their practical piece

Please note:

This activity will ideally be carried out in a lesson of around an hour in duration
You may find it useful to refer to the following information when discussing with the young people in your class some of the various issues relevant to keeping safe around the Bonfire period. The following pages contain brief information on:

- Fire Safety Top Tips
- The Fireworks Code
- Fireworks and the Law
- Useful websites for reference
Fire Safety – Top Tips!

Children should be reminded of the following top tips – and remind their parents or guardians!

- Don’t over stack bonfires or make them too large to control
- Check the fire before lighting (ensuring there are no animals or small children hiding inside)
- Never light a bonfire too early – it can soon get out of control
- Never light a bonfire that doesn’t belong to you
- Never put fireworks on a bonfire
- Never burn dangerous rubbish – such as aerosols or paint tins
- Make sure spectators stand well back to prevent flying embers catching alight on clothing
- When the bonfire is over, the fire needs to be put out completely – don’t leave it smouldering as it could catch light again

- Light sparklers one at a time and always wear gloves
- Never give a sparkler to a child under the age of five – they will not understand how to use them safely
- Children should be supervised when using sparklers
- When the sparkler has finished, plunge it into a bucket of water with the hot end down as they can stay hot for a long time
- Store sparklers in a closed tin box in a cool dry place
- Avoid wearing inappropriate clothing such as loose, flowing clothing that could potentially catch light

REMEMBER THE FIREWORK CODE
The Firework Code

- Stand well back
- Never go back to a lit firework
- Never put fireworks in your pocket
- Never throw fireworks
- Light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves
- Never give sparklers to a child under five
- Keep pets indoors

More specifically for adults . . .

- Only buy fireworks marked BS 7114
- Keep fireworks in a closed tin box
- Follow individual instructions on each firework
- Light fireworks at arms length using a taper
Fireworks and the Law

Curfew on fireworks:

The Noise Act specifies that fireworks cannot be used between the hours of 11pm and 7am, with the exception of the following dates where the times may vary:

- November 5th – until midnight
- New Years Eve – 1am on the following day
- Diwali – 1am on the following day
- Chinese New Year - 1am on the following day

Fireworks – the law:

- Under 18s are not permitted to purchase fireworks or to possess them in a public place

Fireworks – the retailer’s responsibility:

- Fireworks are an age restricted product and should be treated in the same way as other such products, for example alcohol or cigarettes
- Retailers can face hefty fines for selling fireworks to anybody under the age of 18

Useful advice:

- Only buy fireworks marked BS 7114
- Illegal fireworks are often sold cheaply, however the quality cannot be assured

Discussion Points:

- Reminder that from the age of 10 you are criminally responsible for your actions and can be punished accordingly by Police/Criminal Justice System
- Why do pupils think there are age restrictions placed on certain products such as fireworks? Do they agree with this?
• Why are time restrictions put on the use of fireworks? For example, anti-social behaviour linking to loud noises during certain times (e.g. when people are trying to sleep).

For more information visit: www.dti.gov.uk/fireworks for schools packs aimed at Key Stage 2 pupils.

Other Useful Websites:

• www.westyorkshirefire.gov.uk
• www.dti.gov.uk/fireworks
• www.welephant.co.uk
Evaluation

Please help us by sparing some time to give us your comments on the activities that we have provided.

Enclosed is a Teacher Reflection and Feedback Form which we would be very grateful if you could complete and post back to us at the address provided.

We are also keen to hear about what the young people in your group thought about the activities. Please photocopy the Pupil Reflection and Feedback Form and distribute in your class. All completed sheets can be sent to the address provided on the bottom of the sheet.

If you have any additional comments or would like more information please email the Safety Central Training Team at sc.training@westyorkshire.gov.uk

Thank you!
West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service
Firework and Bonfire Session Plan

Teacher Evaluation - Teacher Led Sessions

We are always striving to improve our services to the community.
We value your comments/feedback.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q1</th>
<th>What is the name of your school/organisation and year group?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q2</td>
<td>Name of Teacher/Tutor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q3</td>
<td>Dates of use</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q4</td>
<td>Were the Fire Service representatives you were in contact with courteous and professional?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q5</td>
<td>Were you offered the session plan or did you make a request for them?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q6</td>
<td>Were the lesson activities age appropriate?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q7</td>
<td>Were the session plans easy to incorporate into your scheme of work?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q8</td>
<td>Were the activities received well by the young people you taught?</td>
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<td>Q9</td>
<td>Did you feel the activities linked well to the bonfire period and the learning objectives you had in mind?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q10</td>
<td>Does the School/Organisation have a named contact for the Fire Service?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q11</td>
<td>Does the School/Organisation have any current or future initiatives that the Fire Service could help with?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q12</td>
<td>Any other comments/suggestions for improvement. Continue overleaf in necessary</td>
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Thank you for completing this evaluation.
Please post the form back to

Corporate Services, FREEPOST BD2783,
West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service, Oakroyd Hall,
Bradford Road, Birkenshaw, BD11 2DY
West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service
Firework and Bonfire Evaluation

Year 6 Pupil Reflection and Feedback Form

Please take a few moments to answer the questions. Your comments are an important contribution.

Q1 What is the name of your school?   

Q2 What is your age?   

Q3 What did you think of the activities?  
   Excellent ...........................................  
   Good ................................................  
   OK ...................................................  
   Boring .............................................  

Q4 What part of the session was the most interesting for you?  
   Presentation ........................................  
   Video ...............................................  
   Discussion ........................................  
   Pictures ..........................................  
   All of the above ...................................  

Q5 Could we improve the activities in any way?  
   Yes ..................................................  
   No ....................................................  

Q6 If yes, how?   

Q7 In the future would you mess around with fireworks if your friends were?  
   Yes ..................................................  
   No ....................................................  

Q8 Name one thing you have learnt about firework and bonfire safety from the lesson   

Thank you for completing this evaluation.
Please post the form back to

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