



**FIRE
RESCUE
VICTORIA**

COMIC BOOK



Firefighters Mel and Vic have lots of cool safety stuff, just for kids! Games and Quizzes and Safety Hints. They will also tell you about your fire service..

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For more information contact:

Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV) Community Resilience

PO Box 151,

Victoria, Australia 8002

Ph: (03) 9665 4464

email: commres@frv.vic.gov.au

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WELCOME



Hi kids! We're Firefighters Vic and Mel.
Welcome to the Fire Rescue Victoria comic book!
Keep reading, follow the story and you'll find
out more about keeping you, your family
and your home safe from fire!

HOW IT ALL STARTED...

Firefighter Vic, Firefighter Mel and their crew were fighting a house fire. Some of the neighbourhood kids heard the sirens and came to find out what was happening. When they saw the house on fire they became very worried about Mrs Simons, the lady who lived there ...



Look Dash!
It's old Mrs Simons' house.
Check out all that smoke!
Do you reckon she's alright?
How do you think it started?
Who called the fire brigade?

I don't know Jack,
but let's ask the
firefighters and
find out.



Is Mrs
Simons OK?

How did the
fire start?

How did you
know she had
a fire? Who
called you?

We don't know how
this fire started yet, but
let's go to your house and we
can show you some ways
to keep you and your house
safe from fire. Just let us
finish up here and Vic
and I will answer all
your questions.

What's that
bottle on your
back for?

How do you
breathe when you
go into a fire?

Hey!
Slow down kids.
Don't panic!
There's a lot you
want to know.

Our house
won't burn
down too
will it?

Now I'm
getting
scared about
my house!

**LATER AT JACK
AND DASH'S HOME**

After Mrs Simons got out of her house she rang 000 on her mobile phone and said her house was on fire. Then we got the call to come and help. Our station is just around the corner.

**FIRE SAFETY
HINTS**

A 000 sticker on the phone will help you to remember what number to ring in an emergency.

**FIRE SAFETY
FACT**

When you ring 000 (zero, zero, zero) and say 'FIRE' the operator asks you for your address and the nearest cross street.

Then the operator contacts the closest fire station and a fire truck leaves the fire station straight away to help you out.



Mrs Simons knew that it would hurt her to walk through the smoke. She knew that there wouldn't be much smoke near the floor, so she crawled until she was out!




When there is smoke...
You can see better near the floor and you
can breathe better near the floor, so...
if escaping through smoke is the only way
to get out of your home....

CRAWL DOWN LOW and GO, GO, GO!!!

**FIRE SAFETY
FACT**

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He may look and sound scary, but don't forget it's still Vic under there. We need to wear these things so we can see and breathe when we put out fires.

The air in a BA cylinder lasts the firefighter about 30-35 minutes.

A BA set weighs 11kgs.

A firefighter's helmet weighs 1.5kgs.

**FIREFIGHTER
FACT**

Firefighters wear Breathing Apparatus (BA) when they fight fires.

The two main parts of the BA are the mask and the air cylinder. The BA protects them from smoke when they are fighting fires.

The air cylinder and mask of the BA allow them to breathe clean air. The mask and visor on the helmet protect their face and eyes.



HELMET

VISOR

CYLINDER

MASK

**FIRE SAFETY
QUIZ 1**

**How should you get
out of a smoky room?**

ANSWER PAGE 28



Matches can start fires.

I know you never muck
around with matches
or lighters.


**FIRE SAFETY
QUIZ 2**

What should you do if
your clothes catch fire?

ANSWER PAGE 28

**FIRE SAFETY
HINTS**


If you find
matches or a lighter,
do not touch them.
Tell an adult.



Hey Ali! Hi Zak!
Did you know that chemicals
stored in your garage or shed can
start fires? Some are poisonous
too so they need to be stored or
locked up safely.

**FIRE SAFETY
HINTS**

**Petrol, oils, cleaning fluids and other fuels
are dangerous chemicals and should be
locked away. Adults should check labels
and follow the instructions. Containers
without lids or labels, or ones that are
leaking can be dangerous.**



There must be
at least one
SMOKE ALARM
on each level of
your home

You should **TEST** your
SMOKE ALARM EVERY
MONTH by pressing the
test button. You will hear
BEEP! BEEP! BEEP!
if it is working.

FIRE SAFETY
QUIZ 3

What number do
you phone to get the
fire brigade?

ANSWER PAGE 28

FIRE SAFETY
HINTS

**The Battery in SMOKE ALARMS that have
a 9-volt battery needs to be changed Every Year.**

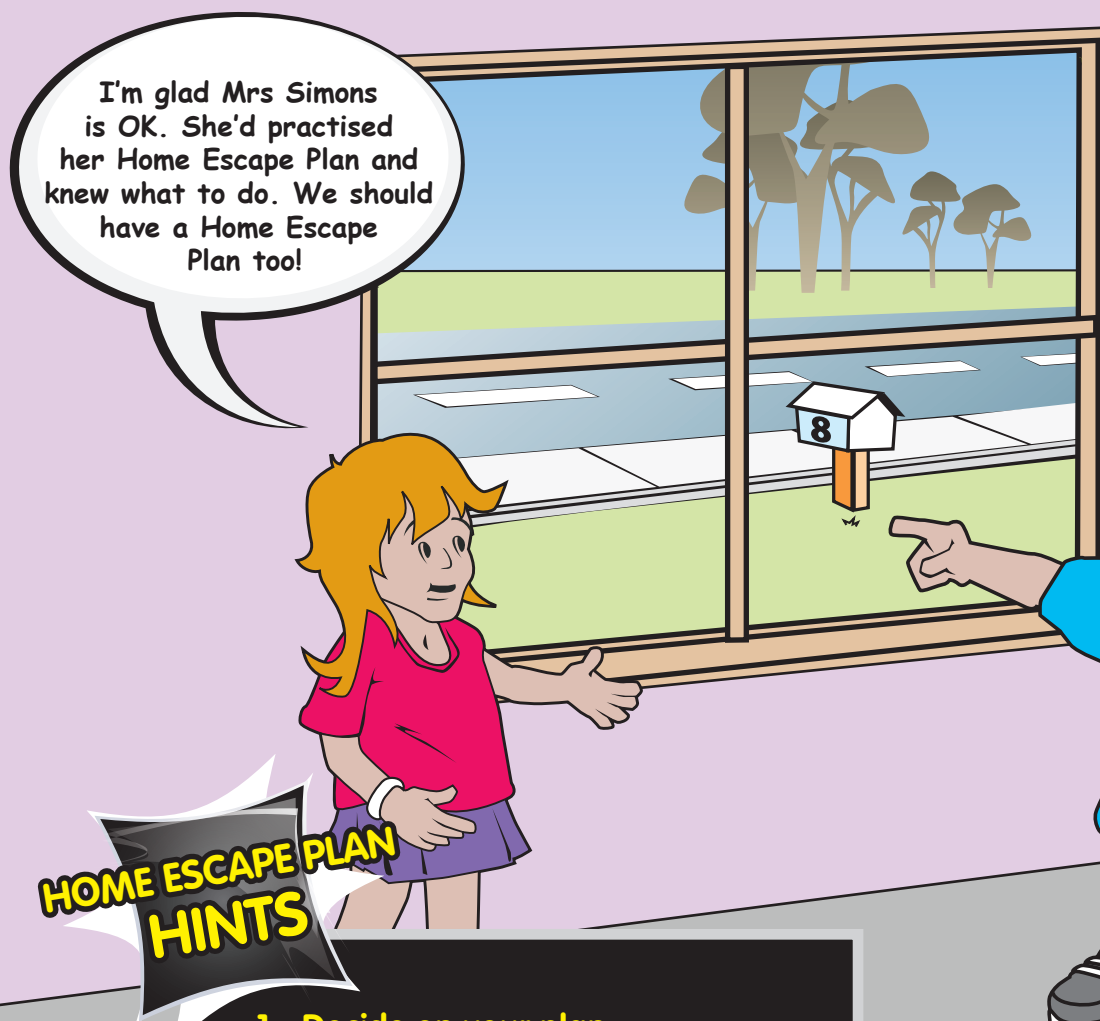
ONLY WORKING SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES



That's right Tara and
it's a good idea to install
SMOKE ALARMS in all
living areas, hallways
and bedrooms

**FIRE SAFETY
HINTS**

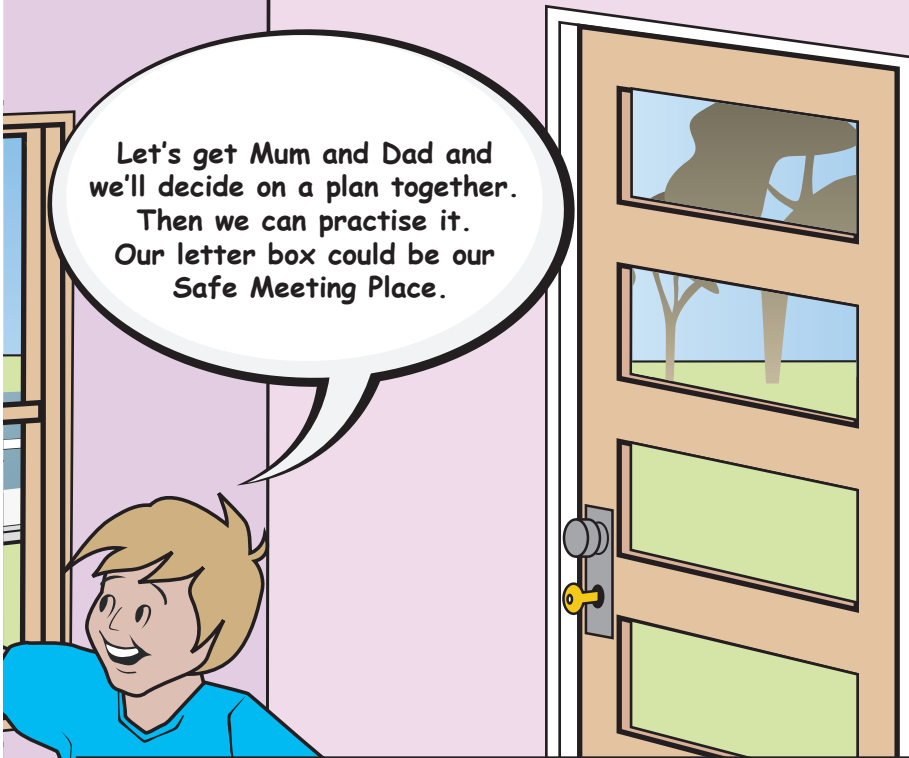
All SMOKE ALARMS need to be changed
every ten years. Replace all old
SMOKE ALARMS with ones that have
10 YEAR LITHIUM batteries.



I'm glad Mrs Simons is OK. She'd practised her Home Escape Plan and knew what to do. We should have a Home Escape Plan too!

HOME ESCAPE PLAN HINTS

1. Decide on your plan
2. Know 2 ways out of every room
3. Have a Safe Meeting Place such as your letterbox
4. Practise your plan



Let's get Mum and Dad and
we'll decide on a plan together.
Then we can practise it.
Our letter box could be our
Safe Meeting Place.

IF THERE IS FIRE OR SMOKE IN YOUR HOME:

1. **CRAWL DOWN LOW** and stay out of the smoke
2. **CLOSE DOORS** to slow spread of fire and smoke
3. **ALERT OTHER PEOPLE** on the way out
4. Go to your **SAFE MEETING PLACE**
5. **NEVER GO BACK INSIDE**
6. Call **000** (zero, zero, zero)



**Make sure you can always get out of your home
quickly in an emergency. DON'T GET LOCKED IN**



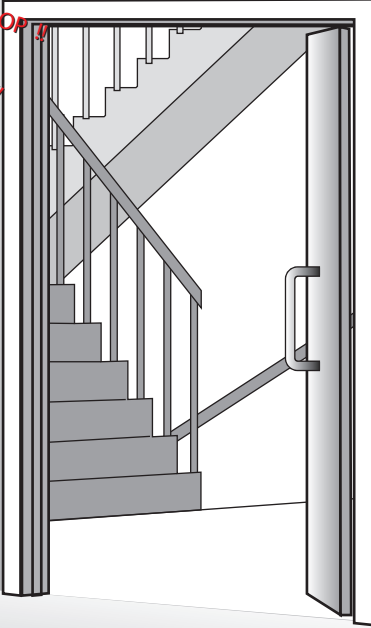
SKY HIGH APARTMENTS

If you live in a HIGH RISE BUILDING do you know:

- 1. Where the stairwells and fire exits are?**
- 2. Where the Emergency Assembly Area is?**
- 3. The sound of the Evacuation Alarm?**
- 4. What to do if you hear the fire alarm?**



EXIT



Close the door between yourself and the fire and stop the smoke entering your room. Call 000 (zero, zero, zero), tell the operator where you are and that you need help to get out.

Ask an adult in your family what the Emergency Evacuation Plan is for your building.

Lin and I live in a high-rise building. Is there any more we should know about escaping a fire?

What if I can't get out of our apartment?

EMERGENCY ASSEMBLY AREA





When leaving the house or going to bed switch off all electrical appliances at the wall.



Let an adult know if an appliance is not in good working order so it can be repaired or thrown out

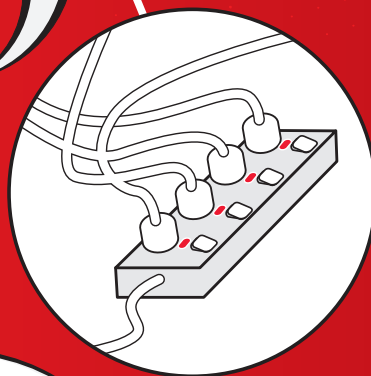
Keep all electrical appliances away from water



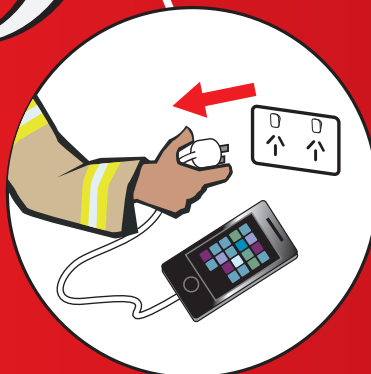
ELECTRICITY
Anything ELECTRIC
can cause a fire if not used safely

All your
PORTABLE DEVICES
should have good air flow
around them when they are
on. Keep them off the
bed, carpet and couch.


It is dangerous to plug
too many things into a
power board or power
point. Use power
boards safely.



Use good quality phone
and tablet chargers.
Switch them off
when not in use.



RICITY
ELECTRICAL can
not used SAFELY



If clothes are hung too close to a heater to dry, they can catch fire. Keep everything at least 1 metre away from a heater.

**FIRE SAFETY
QUIZ 4**

What should you do if you find matches or a cigarette lighter?

ANSWER PAGE 28

If your clothes catch fire, running around will make it worse.

**Remember: STOP moving
DROP to the floor
COVER your face with your hands
ROLL backwards and forwards
until the fire is out.**

**FIRE SAFETY
FACT**




If you get a small burn or scald, run cool water over it for 15-20 minutes. This will cool it and stop it getting worse.

Burns come from being too close to fire or touching a hot object. Scalds come from being in contact with hot liquid.

IF YOU BURN YOURSELF, TELL AN ADULT STRAIGHT AWAY! If the burn is bigger than a 20c coin you will need to go to a doctor.

**FIRE SAFETY
FACT**

A firefighter in a tan and yellow uniform with 'MEL' on his chest is talking to two children. A young girl in a green dress is pointing, and a boy in a yellow shirt and blue pants is raking leaves. They are outdoors with a wooden fence and green trees in the background.

What can you kids tell me about summer fire safety?

If your home is near grassland, paddocks or bush you should remove anything that can burn easily from around your home and fence line.

We shouldn't travel to high bushfire danger places on high fire risk days.

BE FIRE READY THIS SEASON!

Even if you live in a city or town you and your family need to know how to prepare and what to do if a grass or bush fire starts near you. If you live next to grassland and a grass fire starts, you and your family should walk two streets back from the fire.

**FIRE SAFETY
FACT**



Everyone should get the Vic Emergency Smartphone App.

Well done. If a bush or grass fire starts near your home move at least two streets away from the fire.

FIRE SAFETY HINTS

On days of high fire danger listen to local radio and watch television for updated information on emergencies in your area.



FIRE DANGER RATING



BAD BEDROOM!

We have looked at lots of things in your house so far. This bedroom is not very safe at the moment! You know how to fix it up now. Have a close look and tell me about all the dangers.

FIRE SAFETY SEARCH

How many fire hazards can you see in this bedroom?

ANSWERS PAGE 29

In more than 9 out of 10 house fires, someone was in the home when the fire started.

There are more house fires in the cooler months than in the warmer months.

FIRE SAFETY
FACT

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KITCHEN HAZARDS!

A D

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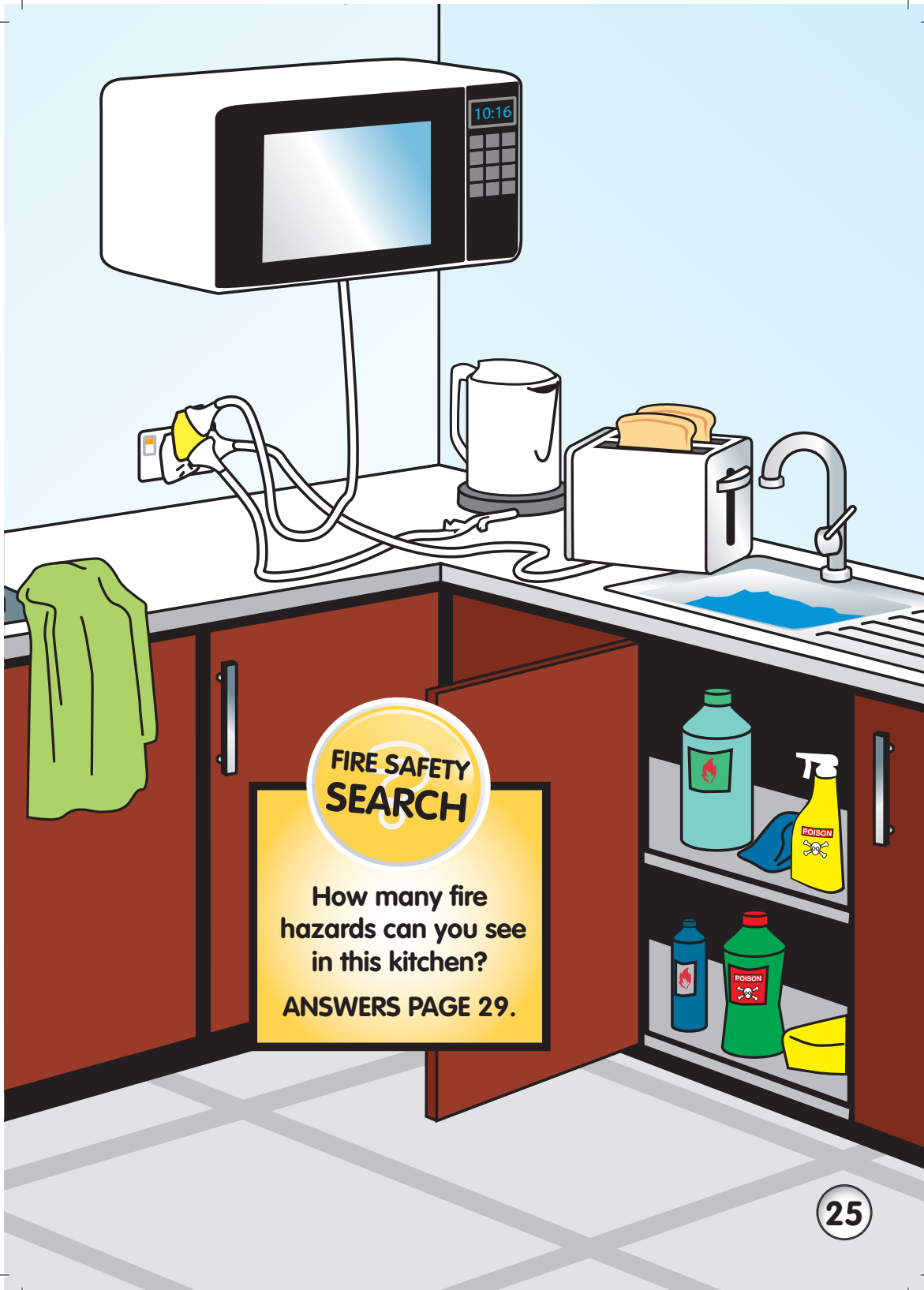
B

F



FIRE SAFETY
FACT

Almost a half of house fires start in the kitchen. An adult should always be in the kitchen while something is cooking.



LATER THAT WEEK...

G'Day kids.
I remember you all from the other day. There isn't any fire, but firefighters don't only put out fires you know. We get called out to help people who've had heart attacks and we also rescue people from car crashes.

Hey there's Firefighter Vic!

How come you're here?
I don't see any fire!



**FIRE
RESCUE
VICTORIA**

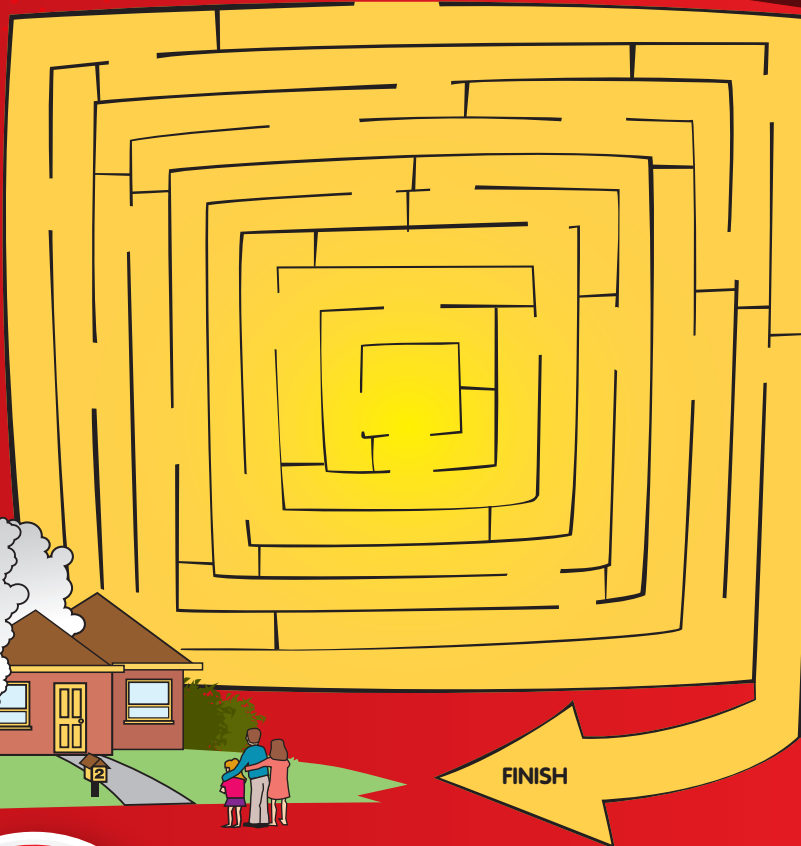


MAZE

How quickly can you drive the truck to the fire?



START



FINISH

FIRE SAFETY
FACT

When Fire Rescue Victoria gets a call for help, most of the time they can be there to help in less than 8 minutes!!

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ANSWERS QUIZ 1: To get out of a smoky room 'Crawl Down Low and GO, GO, GO!' **QUIZ 2:** If your clothes catch fire you need to 'Stop, Drop, Cover, Roll'. **QUIZ 3:** The number you phone to get the fire brigade is 000 (zero, zero, zero). **QUIZ 4:** If you find matches or a cigarette lighter, do not touch them. Tell an adult.



T	H	E	E	S	H	O	S	E
T	O	Y	M	O	Y	B	A	N
U	T	R	E	S	D	R	S	M
A	L	A	R	M	R	I	M	O
Z	K	E	G	W	A	G	O	A
E	B	L	E	A	N	A	K	A
R	U	R	N	T	T	D	E	M
O	R	S	C	E	T	E	O	D
A	N	Y	Y	R	F	I	R	E

FIND THESE...

ALARM	EMERGENCY	HYDRANT
BAN	FIRE	SMOKE
BRIGADE	HOSE	WATER
BURN	HOT	ZERO

What do the remaining letters say?

BAD BEDROOM: Candle left burning. Clothes placed over the TV vents. Clothes placed on the lamp. Too many power cords plugged into one socket. Skate board on the floor could be tripped over. Tree branches are blocking the window. Laptop left on bed. **KITCHEN HAZARDS:** Pot and frying pan handles turned outwards. Tea towel too close to stove. Too many power cords plugged into one socket. Hazardous chemicals where children can reach them. Toaster too close to water. Frayed power cord on kettle.



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Find out more about home fire safety at
www.frv.vic.gov.au

