

# Brooke 2 Head Start Pre-K Celebrates Fire Safety Week!

During the month of November 2011, the children learned that practice makes perfect! To be good at anything, even fire safety, it takes practice! So, during this week-long learning experience the children PRACTICED. A glimpse at the week in review:

**Monday** began with a discussion of what causes a fire and the children expressed an interest to learn what causes a fire. They came up with all sorts of reason why a fire occurs. Some of the reason they listed were

1. fire
2. candles
3. smoke and cigarettes
4. lighters
5. hair, and
6. stoves

Over the next few days the children learned a lot and many more reasons were added to our list!

On Monday the children also learned how quickly that fire spreads. They learned that a fire can grow to be very large within seconds. They learned the importance of getting out of the house quickly and safely, and even reviewed the classroom emergency plan. The children completed an activity with their parents designed to establish their home evacuation plan. The children even participated in a classroom fire drill as well as a bus fire drill. The children identified all of the safety items in the room (fire extinguisher, EXIT sign, emergency plan, and smoke alarm). The children recognized who to contact in an emergency - 911 and they practiced on play cell phones how to dial 911. The kids made mock 911 calls all day. Several children painted "fire" during choice time. Finally, on Monday we practiced the Stop, Drop and Roll technique in case they would ever happen to catch on fire.



On **Tuesday** the children sang several songs about fire fighters. One of the songs they liked was "10 Brave Firefighters." One child dressed up like a fire fighter and told the children that his daddy is a firefighter and he talked about how his daddy protects people. He also told the kids that he has been to the fire department and the truck is really cool and makes loud sounds! Miss Katie (our intern) talked with the kids about

different types of burns. She discussed the 3 different types/levels and she also talked about what causes burns and fires. We added the following to our list of what causes a fire:

7. matches
8. hats on top of lamps
9. too many cords in an outlet
10. stoves
11. dryers
12. irons
13. extension cords, and
15. gas cans



We discussed why each item could possibly cause a fire and how to be safe when using a stove, iron, dryer or other item. The kids were VERY excited to talk about this and began telling stories about how to be safe in an unsafe situation.



We practiced sliding down two different fire poles at the playground as well. During choice time, many children dressed up and pretended to be putting fires out in the room. Also, several children made fire stations using blocks during choice time.

On Wednesday we learned more about Smoky the Bear and reviewed everything that we learned to date. The children practiced Stop, Drop and Roll again. Mr. Tom (bus driver) provided a safety presentation for the children about bus safety. He drew pictures of the bus and discussed the "danger zones" on and around the bus. He also went over the emergency exits and the emergency plan for the bus. The children were very interested in this as well. One of the children said, "Mr. Tom what if my ball rolls under the bus? I don't go and get it because the bus could flatten me like a pancake! I just tell you and you will make it safe and you will drive the bus up and get it."

We also had a cooking experience and the children made fire trucks! They spread strawberry cream cheese all over the graham cracker, used a plastic knife to track in a window, ladder, hose and door. Then they put sliced kiwi on the cracker for tires! They loved it, and it was tasty too!

Finally, the trip to the fire department! The teacher asked the children if they ever wondered what it would be like to ride in a fire truck? Or what it would be like to be inside of a fire station? She also asked them what



the firefighters gear looked like and also how firefighters stay safe in a fire. They also talked about how firefighters are safe people and discussed that they are professionals who keep us safe. The children learned to never run from a firefighter when they are trying to help us. So now, off to the fire department!



The firefighters were amazing! They had all the children sit down at a table and presented a safety presentation. They involved the children throughout the entire presentation. They discussed the importance of fire safety and the importance of having an emergency plan. The children told the firefighters all about what they learned during class. They told them all the reasons they learned a fire could start! The

firefighters were impressed!

Next, the firefighters showed the children all of their gear. They passed it all around so the children could smell the fire on it. The children tried on all of the firefighters gear - it was heavy! The children asked many questions such as, how do you breathe in a fire? They answered and discussed that they use the air tank and the breathing mask. -how does the fire not get you? They told the children that their gear has a fire barrier that keeps the fire from burning them. Next question - how do you know when there is a fire? They shared that they get phone call at the station, they put their gear on really fast and rush out of the fire station. The firefighters also told them they go on all types of calls such as fires, cars wrecks and even to help cats stuck in trees!

Next, the children explored the fire truck and they were able to go inside and even sit in the front seat! Firefighter Nate turned on the truck and the sirens! It was loud! They told the children about all the items on the truck such as the hose, the stretcher and the ladder. They informed the children that they used water from a hydrant to put fires out.

The firefighter's discussed the importance of smoke detectors in homes and the children heard first-hand just how loud a smoke detector can be. The firefighters shared that they would provide a smoke detector(s) to any family needing one - for free! Awesome!

Lastly, they gave our children a small snack and while they were eating they passed out fire hats and a coloring sheet for the children to take home.

When the children returned to the classroom, comments shared were: "that was so cool!" and "that truck was awesome!" The children were asked by their teacher what they learned from the visit and here are some of their responses:



1. I need a smoke detector
2. Firemen can be girls
3. The firemen talk using walkie-talkies
4. If a fireman gets lost in a house his coat beeps really loud so they can find him
5. A fire truck goes fast to save people
6. The fire gear stinks like fire
7. The firemen are nice
8. The siren is loud
9. Stop, drop and roll---cover your face so your face doesn't get hurted, and
10. Never, ever, ever and I mean never, ever play with a lighter!



On **Thursday** the children reviewed everything they learned during the week. It was a great FIRE SAFETY WEEK at Brooke 2 Head Start Pre-K.

For more information about the week-long activities, please contact Kim Welshans, teacher, 304.394.5362 or by emailing [brooke2@npheadstart.org](mailto:brooke2@npheadstart.org).