

In MY Opinion

Grades 2–3 Lesson Plans

OBJECTIVES

- ✓ Students will be able to apply the **4 steps** for responding to the sound of a smoke alarm.
- ✓ Students will effectively apply strategies to write an opinion paragraph.

Materials

Fire Escape Message Cards — Cut into cards and placed in envelopes
“What’s That Sound?” music video by *Recess Monkey*

Instructions

- REVIEW** teacher information so you have a good understanding of smoke alarms and the correct response.
- ACCESS** prior knowledge by asking students what would they do if they heard the sound of a smoke alarm? Demonstrate the sound. Record student answers.
- INTRODUCE** students to the **4 steps** to safely escape a fire. When you hear the smoke alarm sound:
 - **Stop what you are doing.**
 - **Know 2 ways out.**
 - **Head straight outside.**
 - **Go to your outside meeting place.**
- SHOW** the “What’s That Sound?” music video. During or after the video, have students use the Fire Escape Message Cards to sequence the steps to take if a smoke alarm sounds. Discuss the correct sequence after the video is finished.
- ASK** the students to explain the difference between fact and opinion. Ask them if the correct sequence of the steps to take if a smoke alarm sounds is fact or opinion. Explain why it is fact. Ask for statements that serve as opinions related to the video.
- DISCUSS** the concept of opinion further and teach students how to write an opinion paragraph.
 - **BEGIN** with a topic sentence such as, “I agree/disagree with...” or “There are several reasons I agree/disagree with.”
 - **THINK** of two or three reasons to support the topic sentence using introductory words such as first, second, another reason, I think, etc.
 - **ADD** a concluding sentence for the opinion piece. The sentence will summarize the student’s opinion of the video.
 - The final sentences should **HIGHLIGHT** the 4 safety steps presented in the video. Students will explain each of the 4 steps.

ASSESSMENT

Ask each student to explain which genre of music in the video helped them learn about responding to a smoke alarm the best. Each student will write an opinion paragraph explaining her or his choice. The paragraph must use the qualities of opinion paragraphs discussed in class.

At the end of the paragraph, each student will write the 4 steps of responding to the smoke alarm in correct sequence.



Common Core

English Language Arts Standards

Writing: Text Types and Purposes

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.2.1

Write opinion pieces in which students introduce the topic or book they are writing about, state an opinion, supply reasons that support the opinion, use linking words (e.g., because, and, also) to connect opinion and reasons, and provide a concluding statement or section.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1

Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons.

National Health Education Standards for Pre-K-12

S7.5.2

Demonstrate a variety of healthy practices and behaviors to maintain or improve personal health.

FIRE ESCAPE MESSAGE CARDS

GRADES 2-3

What to do when the smoke alarm sounds, "beep, beep, beep."



**BEEP! BEEP!
BEEP!**

MESSAGE CARDS:



I stop what I am doing.



I know 2 ways out.



I head straight outside.



I go to my Outside Meeting Place.



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TEACHER INFORMATION

GRADES 2-3

SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES. Every home needs smoke alarms. They should be installed on every level of the home (including the basement), outside each sleeping area, and inside each bedroom. A smoke alarm makes a, “beep, beep, beep” sound. Between each set of three beeps is a slight pause — “beep, beep, beep, pause, beep, beep, beep, pause,” and so on. A smoke alarm senses smoke. It will sound if there is smoke in the home — possibly from a fire. When the smoke alarm sounds, everyone should leave the home. Everyone should know the sound of the smoke alarm and how to respond quickly.



A **HOME FIRE ESCAPE PLAN** is a plan to get out of the home quickly in case there is a fire. Every room in the home needs two ways out. One way out would be the door and the second way out may be another door or a window. Every home fire escape plan needs an outside meeting place. A meeting place is a permanent location in front of the home, a safe distance from the home. A good meeting place might be a neighbor’s home, a street light, a mailbox, a neighborhood store, or a special tree. Everyone in the family should go to the meeting place so everyone will be together and grown-ups will know that everyone is safe. Families should practice their home fire drill at least twice a year.

Here are the **4 important things to do** if the smoke alarm sounds:

- 1. Stop what you are doing.**
- 2. Know 2 ways out.**
- 3. Head straight outside.**
- 4. Go to your outside meeting place.**



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