



A Supplement to *Weekly Reader K and 1*  
Fire Prevention Week is October 6–12, 2002.

# Teaming Up for Your Home Fire Escape Plan



NFPA is the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week.

**S**parky the Fire Dog® teaches kids and families about fire safety. You can team up with Sparky® and firefighters to be safe and stop fires from happening, too. Create and practice a home fire escape plan with your family. Here's how:

*Make sure that there is at least one working smoke alarm on every level of your home and in or near each sleeping area. Have a grown-up test them to make sure they work.*



*Plan at least two ways out of each room.*



*Know your local emergency phone number and write it on your escape plan.*



*Agree on a family meeting place outside and call the fire department from outside the burning building.*



## Remember...

**Know two ways out of every room.  
Pick a meeting place outside. Practice your escape plan at least twice a year.**



HOME SAFETY COUNCIL



Working for a safer world

First Alert

# Let's Check It Out!

Sparky® and his team are also detectives. They work with grown-ups to help keep everybody safe. You can do this with your mom or dad too!



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## SCORECARD FOR SAFETY



Test all windows and doors to make sure that they can open easily.

**SAFE**



Check that doors and hallways are not blocked.

**SAFE**



Test smoke alarms monthly to make sure they work. Remember to test them when you return from vacation, too.

**SAFE**



Make sure a grown-up is always in the kitchen when the stove is on.

**SAFE**

Can you think of other fire safety hazards to watch for?

### Sparky also says...



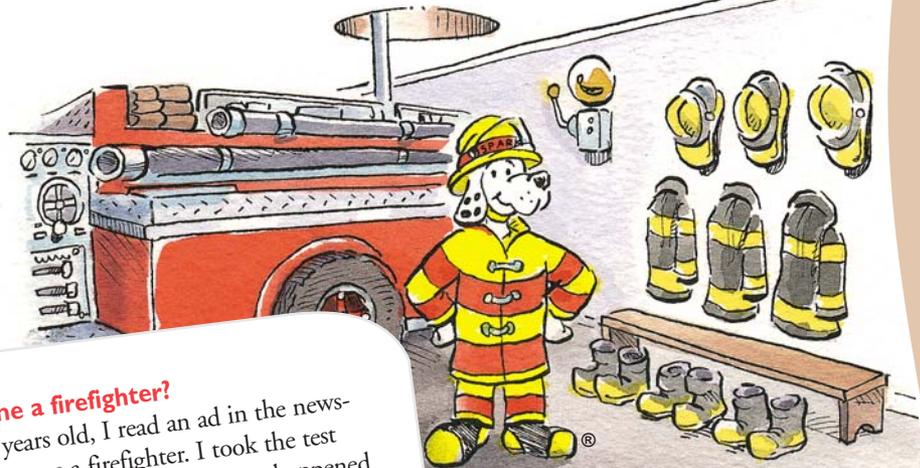
Keep matches and lighters out of sight, up high in a locked cabinet.

Practice your home fire escape plan at least twice a year.

Know who to call in an emergency.

# Working to Help Keep You Safe!

**F**irefighters are brave. They work hard to keep everyone safe. Firefighter Antiliano Estrella of the Providence Fire Department in Rhode Island tells Sparky® about his job.



**Sparky: Why did you become a firefighter?**

**Mr. Estrella:** When I was 20 years old, I read an ad in the newspaper about taking a test to become a firefighter. I took the test and passed! Being a firefighter is the best thing that ever happened to me. It's the greatest job in the world.

**Sparky: How do you become a firefighter?**

**Mr. Estrella:** It takes lots of hard work! You have to take a written test and you have to be in good shape. If you pass the tests, then you go to school for six months. We had to run 10 miles a day in school!

**Sparky: What clothes do you wear?**

**Mr. Estrella:** Firefighters' uniforms protect us from heat and flames. We wear coats and pants that are fire-resistant, hard hats with masks, and rubber boots.

**Sparky: Are there any safety rules kids should follow if the smoke alarm sounds in their home?**

**Mr. Estrella:** Yes! You have to get out of the house quickly and stay out. That's why you need to practice your home fire escape plan at least twice a year.

**Sparky: How can I keep my home safe?**

**Mr. Estrella:** You can help keep your home safe by reminding your moms and dads to install and test smoke alarms. And, always have an escape plan!

**Sparky: Why do a lot of fire stations have dogs?**

**Mr. Estrella:** Before there were fire trucks, firefighters used horse-drawn carriages to bring water pumps, hoses, and ladders to fires. Dalmatian dogs would guide the horses and kept them on track. Now they are a fire station tradition.



**Firefighter Antiliano Estrella of the Providence Fire Department in Rhode Island**

**Mr. Estrella:**

Now I have a question for you. Why do you think fire trucks are usually red, or sometimes white, yellow, or green?

