



TEAM UP WITH SPARKY! Candle Fire Safety For Kids

Sparky the Fire Dog® needs you to join his fire safety team! You and your family and friends can work together to learn more about the rules of candle safety. The theme of this year's Fire Prevention Week is "Candle With Care". Working with a grown-up, review the following safety tips from Sparky and the Orange County Fire Authority to make sure candles are used safely in your home.

- Make sure a grown-up is always in the room when a candle is burning.
- If the grown-up leaves the room, make sure he or she puts out the candle first.
- **Never burn candles in bedrooms!**
- Don't let teenage brothers and sisters burn candles in their rooms.
- Set up a "kid-free" zone around burning candles: no playing with or near candles, with candle wax, or with things that could catch fire near candles.
- Keep candles at least a foot away from anything that could catch on fire.
- Don't put candles in windows or doorways where the wind could knock them over, or blow things into them that could catch on fire.
- Keep matches and lighters up high, out of children's sight and reach, preferably in a locked cabinet.
- Make sure to use candleholders that are sturdy and won't tip over easily. They also need to be big enough to catch any wax that drips from the candle.
- Don't let kids light candles (and grown-ups should be careful to keep hair and any loose clothing away from the flame).
- A grown-up should put out candles by using a snuffer or by blowing softly. Be careful of splattering wax. It is hot and can burn you.
- Grown-ups shouldn't leave the room until wicks have stopped glowing.
- Sometimes grown-ups use candles because the power has gone out. Make sure that your family is safe even during an emergency. If the power goes out, use flashlights and lights that use batteries, not candles. (Make sure to have extra batteries on hand.)
- Kids should always make a wish before they blow out **carefully** their birthday candles.



For additional fire safety information, contact the OCFA at 714-573-7200 or visit the website at www.ocfa.org.

