



PROTECTING PEOPLE, HOMES
& NATURAL RESOURCES

• A Team Approach •

MATCH SAFETY PROGRAM

From the Missoula County Fire Protection Association

Missoula County Fire Protection Association (MCFPA) is a voluntary, non-profit association made up of fire professionals, emergency service responders and others who care about the life & safety and natural resource issues in Western Montana. We have representatives from multiple agencies including the Missoula Fire Department, Missoula Rural Fire District, Department of Natural Resource and Conservation (DNRC), Forest Service, East Missoula Rural Fire District, Seeley Lake Rural Fire District, Florence Rural Fire District, and Frenchtown Rural Fire District.

EVERY SPRING, members of the MCFPA visit local area schools to teach First Grade children Smokey's Match Safety Rules. Here is what you can expect our program to bring to the classroom:

First, we introduce ourselves and our agencies.

A short Smokey Bear video about matches is played.

We talk about fire dangers in the home; then ask the children's help to identify a few.

Next, we teach the children what to do in the case of a fire and how plan a route to safety.

Then, we go over Smokey's Match Safety Rules:

NEVER PLAY WITH MATCHES OR LIGHTERS!

MATCHES AND LIGHTERS ARE TOOLS, NOT TOYS!

IF YOU FIND MATCHES OR LIGHTERS, TELL AN ADULT YOU TRUST!

We then talk about campfire rules and how to safely put out a campfire.

The kids learn about animals living in the forest and how one campfire spark can cause a fire.

Another short Smokey video with a catchy tune wraps up the presentation.

As a final treat, Smokey the Bear or one of his friends stops by for a bear hug and a "paw five."



FOR EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES TO PAIR WITH OUR PROGRAM, VISIT:

<http://www.sparky.org/>

<http://www.smokeybear.com/resources.asp>

<https://www.nfpa.org/fpw>

