

MOONBEAMS® STAY SAFE



OVERVIEW

Since accidental injuries are the leading cause of death in children under the age of nine, Moonbeams are introduced to skills that can help them to stay safe.

OBJECTIVES

To earn this emblem, Moonbeams need to complete at least one activity from each section and the Bible lesson.

WORD BANK

- Poison
- Prepared
- Safe

DEVELOPMENTAL ASSETS SUPPORTED BY THE ACTIVITIES

- Safety
- Engagement in Learning Experiences
- Responsibility
- Personal Power

BACKGROUND FOR LEADERS

Both the *Play Safe! Be Safe!* and *Sesame Street Fire Safety Station Curriculum* may be a bit overwhelming for some Moonbeams. If the leader would like to use part of the material, the following are the basics that need to be covered for this emblem:

- Stop, Drop & Roll
- Crawl Low & Go (which includes Never Hide)
- A Firefighter is Your Friend
- What Things are Dangerous (matches, lighters, etc.)



SECTION 1: FIRE SAFETY

GROUP ACTIVITIES

Help the Moonbeams learn about fire safety by completing one of the following activities:

PLAY SAFE! BE SAFE!

Have the Moonbeams complete the "Play Safe! Be Safe!" fire prevention program. This material includes a twenty-minute DVD featuring Firefighter Dan, Color Story/Flash Cards, Dress the Firefighter Activity Board, Safe for Play! Keep Away! Activity Board, Keep Away! Card Game, comprehensive Teacher's Manual/Resource Book. Cost: \$12.00 to cover cost of shipping. It's available in Spanish and English online at: www.playsafebesafe.com. Also available online at this site are games and activities that are free.

SESAME STREET FIRE SAFETY STATION CURRICULUM

Have the Moonbeams complete the "Sesame Street Fire Safety Station Curriculum." This curriculum is available for free, in English or Spanish, from the U.S. Fire Administration.

This material is restricted to preschools and fire houses. Therefore, in order to get this material fax a written request on the corps letterhead to (301) 447-1213. Be sure the request states clearly that it is for The Salvation Army's use in their youth program, Moonbeams, for preschool and kindergarten children. Visit the USFA's website at: www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/teachers/sesame.shtm.



Once on this site, scroll down to USFA Kids Page to find free resources available for teaching fire safety; however, some of this material is for older children and may not be appropriate for use with Moonbeams.

FIREFIGHTER FRIEND

Take Moonbeams to the local fire department or invite a firefighter friend to visit the troop and speak with the children about fire safety. Ask the firefighter to show children their full gear. Ask them to show the Moonbeams the fastest way to exit the classroom and talk about what to do in case of a fire at home.

SONGS & RHYMES

I'M A LITTLE FIREMAN

(To the tune of "I'm a Little Teapot")

I'm a little fireman, everybody knows,
Here is my ladder, here is my hose.
(Make climbing and spraying motions.)

When there is a fire, hear me shout,
Jump on the truck, let's put the fire out.
(Make jumping and "let's go" motions)

GAMES

FIREFIGHTER SAYS

Using the "Simon Says" style game, have the Moonbeams practice Fire Safety Commands:

- Stop, Drop and Roll.
- Crawl Low and Go.

Have the Moonbeams practice a fire drill. Make sure they know the proper way to exit a building and what to do once outside.

FIREFIGHTER RELAY

When an alarm sounds, firefighters need to dress quickly and hurry to the fire. Have the Moonbeams pretend to be firefighters rushing to answer the call.

SUPPLIES:

- 2 sets of old clothes (pants, jacket, suspenders, etc.)
- 2 pairs of gloves
- 2 pairs of boots
- 2 plastic fire helmets (optional)

- 2 balloons
- 2 water guns or spray bottles
- Towels (to contain the spray and prevent slips)
- Bell
- Chalk or tape

Inflate balloons and hang in an area that can be sprayed with water. These will be the "fire". Place towels on floor under balloons. Use tape to mark a safe distance from the "fire" where the Moonbeam firefighters will spray the water. Fill water guns or spray bottles. Place them at the line.

Place each set of clothes about 10 feet away from the starting line and have an adult there to monitor and help children, as needed.

Divide Moonbeams into two teams. Ask them to line up at the firehouse (tape line on the floor to mark starting line).

To start the game, sound the alarm (ring the bell). One Moonbeam from each team runs to a pile of clothes and dresses in the protective fire gear. Once dressed, they run to the line and spray the fire (balloons) with water. The Moonbeam runs back to where the clothes were and



removes the protective gear. Then it's the next Moonbeam's turn. Continue until all the children have a chance to put out the fire.

NOTE: If you have a large troop, have extra water nearby to refill water guns/spray bottles as needed.

FIRE SAFETY RESOURCES

BOOKS

The Fire Engine Book by Tibor Gergely

Fire! Fire! by Gail Gibbons

Firefighters! by Naomi Kleinberg

No Dragons for Tea: Fire Safety for Kids (and Dragons) by Jean E. Pendziwol

DVDS/VIDEOS

Let's Go to the Firehouse by 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment

WEBSITES

www.firemansam.co.uk/home.php

SECTION 2: POISON PREVENTION

GROUP ACTIVITIES

Help children learn about poison prevention by completing one of the following options:

ASK AN EXPERT

Contact a local hospital or state poison prevention hotline and request poison prevention materials appropriate for use with preschool through kindergarten children. If there's a local representative, check to see if they're available to present the materials to the group.

QUILLS UP

Have the Moonbeams complete the "Quills Up" program. Porcupines have a way of letting everyone know when they sense something dangerous. Use this charming material to remind your children to stay away from dangerous things. Materials include games, songs, art and group activities. Get it by logging on to: <http://www.poison.org/prevent/preschool.asp>.

MR. YUK!

Have the Moonbeams complete the "Mr. Yuk" Educational Program. There's a charge for some of the materials. Order materials online at: www.mryuk1.com or by contacting:

MR. YUK

Pittsburgh Poison Center

Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC

3705 Fifth Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15213-2583

POISON PREVENTION RESOURCES

WEBSITES

Download free poison preventions coloring pages at the following site: www.cartooncritters.com/poisonsafety/poisonsafety.htm.

SECTION 3: TRAFFIC SAFETY

GROUP ACTIVITIES

Help children learn about traffic safety, including bicycle safety, street crossings, and seat belts by doing one of the following:

ASK AN EXPERT

OPTION 1:

Invite a police officer to visit your troop to speak on the topic. Be sure to let the police officer know the ages of the children and topics you'd like covered.

OPTION 2:

Visit the websites for GEICO (www.geico.com) or State Farm (www.statefarm.com) for online traffic safety material or go to a local insurance agency to inquire whether they have traffic safety materials that are suitable for this age group. Most companies are happy to provide supplies free of charge.

SURF THE WEB

Log on to find preschool resources covering these topics. Some helpful sites include:

- Explore this site to find helpful hints and fun ideas for teaching kids safety topics such as bicycle safety, crossing the street, home and playground safety. Check out www.safekids.org/safetytips/.
- Visit the U.S. government's National Highway Traffic Safety's website at: www.nhtsa.gov.



GAMES

ON THE GO

Have the Moonbeams use cardboard boxes to make pretend cars. Practice traffic rules as the Moonbeams "drive" them around the classroom.

RED LIGHT, GREEN LIGHT

Play this familiar childhood game with the Moonbeams to reinforce traffic safety. If you need a refresher on how to play, check out: www.gameskidsplay.net/GAMES/sensing_games/rl_gl.htm.

SNACKS*

Make traffic lights using:

- Graham crackers (1 per child)
- Cream cheese
- Life Savers Gummies® or colored loop cereal (red, yellow and green)

Spread the crackers with cream cheese and encourage children to add the colored snack in the appropriate order.

SECTION 4: STRANGER DANGER

GROUP ACTIVITIES

ASK AN EXPERT

This is an area that is important, but frightening to most children. Invite a local police officer to talk to the children about this topic.

SECTION 5: EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

GROUP ACTIVITIES

It's important for children to know what to do in an emergency. To complete this section, do one of the following:

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Make sure that every child knows their address, phone number, and the first and last names of their parents.

9-1-1

Know when and how to call for help. In most areas, the number to dial is 9-1-1. Help children to use a toy phone and practice calling this number. They need to know what an emergency is and how to report their address, etc.

If possible arrange for a 9-1-1 operator to visit the troop and talk to the children about the proper way to use this number.

THE SALVATION ARMY'S EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Ask your corps officer to speak to the children about The Salvation Army's emergency response work. What types of emergencies does The Salvation Army assist at in your community? If possible, tour an emergency canteen.

CRAFTS

MY FIRST CELL PHONE

SUPPLIES:

- Empty animal crackers boxes
- Brown lunch bags
- Round stickers
- Crayons or medium point black marker
- Pipe cleaner
- Safety scissors
- Tape
- Glue

Guide the Moonbeams through these steps:

1. Wrap the empty box with brown paper.
2. Draw a phone on the box by adding keys and placing a sticker. Be sure to include an "on" and "send" button.
3. Glue or tape a pipe cleaner antenna to the box.



BIBLE LESSONS

TRUST GOD

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart.”
Proverbs 3:5a (NirV)

Ask children to take turns naming people they can trust and why they can trust those people.

Say: **If there were ever a fire, whom would you trust for help? You can always trust a firefighter to help you if there is a fire. Firefighters know all about fires and about the best way to get out safely.**

Who can we trust with our hearts? We can always trust God because He made us and loves us. He knows all about us and how to help us be happy and safe.

Let’s say a prayer and ask God to help us trust Him.

Make sure children understand when it’s okay to call 9-1-1 and when it isn’t a good idea.

Have the Moonbeams practice giving their names, addresses and telling what their emergencies are. Once they’ve finished, have them use the pretend cell phones to practice making emergency calls.

NOTE: This craft was adapted from an article that originally appeared in *Cub Scout Program Helps: Fall 2005*. For a good resource, with lots of great program ideas, pick up a copy of the latest issue at your local scout store.

GAMES

Use an old phone to practice calling 9-1-1 and report an emergency. Children should practice giving their addresses to the responder.

BE BRAVE

“When I’m afraid, I will trust in you.” Psalm 56:3 (NirV)

Say: **Firefighters and police officers need to be very brave. Are there times when you don’t feel brave? What are some things that make you feel afraid?**

Want to know a secret? Sometimes when it’s very dark or stormy, I don’t feel very brave. To tell you the truth, I feel afraid. Whenever that happens, I say a Bible verse I learned a long time ago. It reminds me that no matter what happens, God is always with me and I can trust Him. That always helps me to feel a little braver.

Would you like to learn the verse so you can say it when you're afraid? It's found in Psalm 56:3 (NirV), "When I'm afraid, I will trust in you." (After the children learn the verse, close with a prayer.)



BE PREPARED

"Always be ready to give an answer to anyone who asks you about the hope you have."
1 Peter 3:15b (NirV)

Ask: **Have you ever heard a warning on television that a storm is coming? Why do you think there is a warning given?** (Wait for responses.)

Say: **It's so we can be ready for what might happen. The warning gives us a chance to prepare. We need to have a flashlight ready, in case the lights go off. We need to have water and food ready, in case we're unable to get out of our homes to go to the store. We need to be in a place that's safe.**

The Bible tells us about another way we're to be prepared. It doesn't have anything to do with a storm or emergency that may be coming. We're supposed to be prepared for this at all times.

Let's say our verse together. See if you can tell what we're supposed to prepare for. (Repeat the verse.)

Ask: **Did you hear it?** (Wait for responses.)

Say: **The Bible says we need to be ready all the time, to answer if people want to know why we trust Jesus. When we're always prepared, we don't even have to wait for them to ask. We can be on the lookout for times to tell others why we trust Him. Let's practice:**

**"I trust Jesus because
He cares for me."
He loves me."
He died for my sins."**

Close with prayer.