

Safety Awareness and Fire Education - Gloucestershire
Activity Notes - Messing with matches - The Fire Starter

Class	Years 5 and 6
Topic:	Messing with matches
Activity:	1
Over view of activity	The Fire Starter: The Story
Picture	Notes
Burnt matches	<p>A young person has deliberately set fire to the</p> <p>Choose a place which has been burnt down which will mean something to the children in your class. It could have been a small thing that was set alight which then spread.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A bin in the park, spreading to the play area. The community/ village hall. A car on the sports field, making it impossible to play football. Sports pavilion on the playing field with all the sports equipment in. The local shop. The local heathland/ woodland.
Treated by the ambulance service	<p>The boy was injured in the fire. Although he was not burnt, he suffered from smoke inhalation, which also contained toxic fumes. This made it hard for him to breathe. When substances such as plastics burn they give off toxic fumes, which can be very dangerous.</p> <p>He had to be taken to hospital by ambulance.</p>
Questioned by the police	<p>Setting deliberate fires is against the law.</p> <p>The age of criminal responsibility is 10 years old.</p> <p>This means that you are old enough to understand what is against the law.</p> <p>The boy was arrested and questioned by the police.</p> <p>He had his fingerprints and DNA sample taken.</p> <p>If he is cautioned or convicted he will have a criminal record.</p> <p>This will stay with him for life.</p> <p>It will make it harder to do everyday things such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get a job Open a bank account Get a loan or mortgage Visit other countries such as America.
After the event	<p>The fire may have affected other people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other people may have been injured. When the emergency services were dealing with the boy and the fire; they could not be helping other people who needed them. The fire could have spread to buildings. The firefighters could have been injured. His parents, family, friends and the local community maybe very cross, upset or disappointed with him.