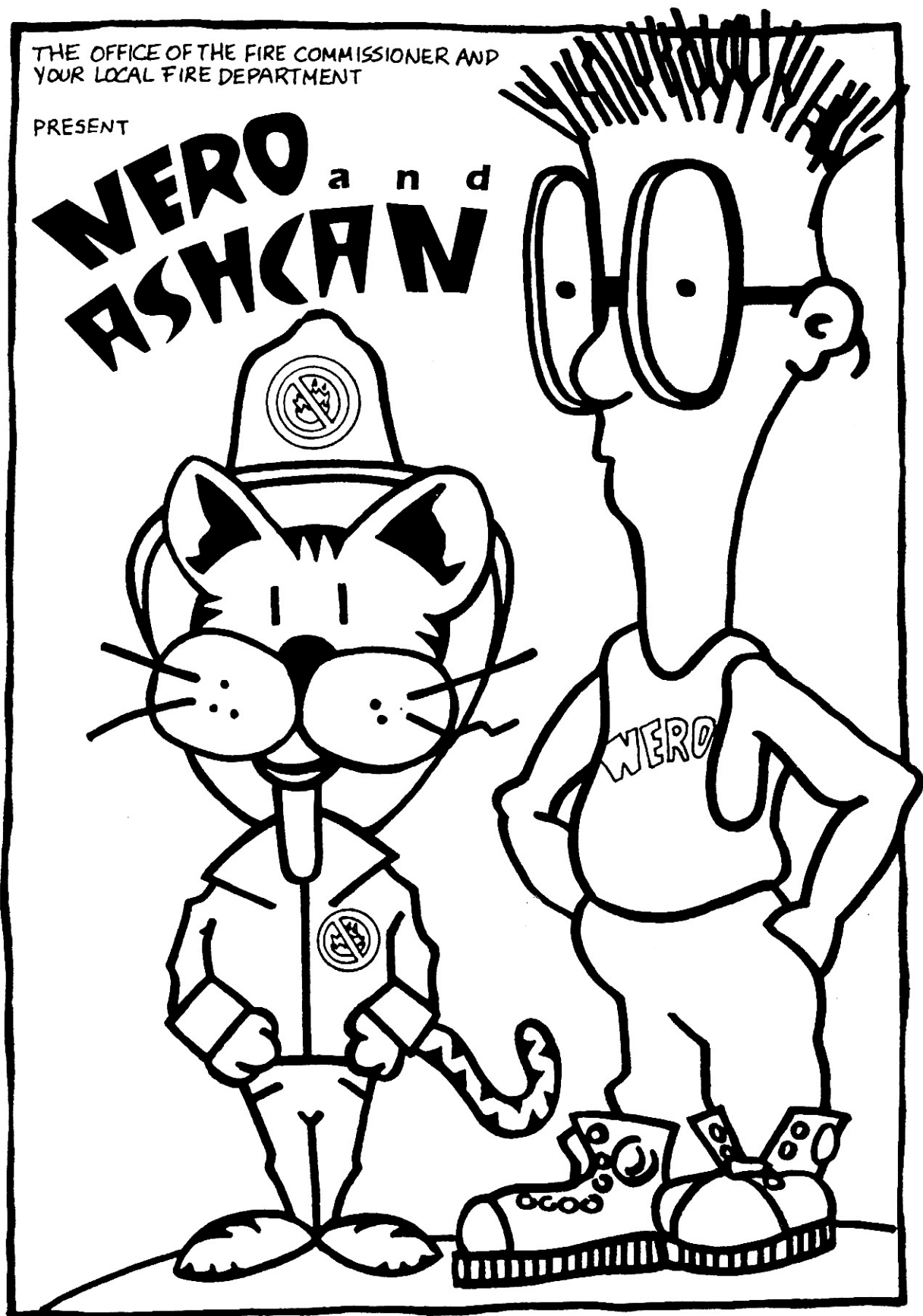


THE OFFICE OF THE FIRE COMMISSIONER AND
YOUR LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT

PRESENT

NERO and ASHCAN



INSTRUCTOR'S SCRIPT

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NERO AND ASHCAN EDUCATIONAL KIT MATCH & LIGHTER SAFETY FOR PRESCHOOLERS

This script is designed for use with the teaching points and activities of the educational kit "Match & Lighter Safety for Preschoolers". To aid you in delivery of the script, instructions are provided before each sample narrative.

It is important to establish the who, why and what of your visit first. This allows the children to become comfortable with the idea of having someone they do not know come into their environment, and promotes interaction once they know who you are, why you have come and what you do.

Instructions

Verbal

Introduction

Once you have established who you are, why you are visiting and what your occupation is, leave your seat and lower yourself to the children's level.

Addressing each child separately, point to their name tag. Shake each child's and caregiver/teacher's hand.

Encourage children to use their fingers to indicate their age if they have trouble remembering.

"Hello! My name is _____, and I'm really excited to be here today and talk to you about fire safety."

"I'm the Fire Chief for your (town, city, etc.)."

"What I do is put out fires and help big people and children get away from a place that is burning."

"Your name tag tells me your name is _____. How old are you, _____?"

Children respond well to touch and formality. It cannot be stressed enough, how important it is that you bend down to the child's level and directly look at them. Their world is small and you will loom large and frightening if you remain standing. Once you have finished the introductions, return to your seat.

Should one of the children exhibit shyness or difficulty when you approach them to shake their hand, go on to the next child.

Before you begin the teaching, you should be aware that young children will not remain totally quiet during the discussion time. They will verbalize their answers to your questions. This is what the program is designed to do, but don't answer each child individually or converse with one individual. Acknowledge the answers and then continue to the next part of the discussion.

Teaching Point #1

Hazards of children playing with matches and lighters.

1.1 Discussion on what fire will burn.

Lets talk about what fire can burn.

Who's wearing socks today?

Everybody?

Is anybody wearing something red today?

My jacket is or my pants are.....

You know, my helmet won't burn, but my socks and my coat/pants can.

Who can show me where their knees are?

That's right.

I've got really big feet, show me your feet.

Did you know that skin can burn? I've burnt my fingers before, have you?

It hurts, doesn't it?

Has anyone ever been stung by a bee? Did you know that a burn is like the sting of a thousand bees!

When I was a little boy, I had a teddy bear that I really liked a lot.

What toy do you like the best?

Those sound like very special toys, it would be really sad if a very special toy burnt. Wouldn't it?

I live in a house, where do you live?

There are lots of different places to live. Houses, apartments, trailers. A home is a very special place isn't it?

Teaching Point #2

Consequences (what will happen)

2.1 Discussion on what cannot be replaced if burned in a fire.

I'm here to help you learn fire safety. We know that clothing burns, our bodies can burn, our toys and even our homes can burn (emphasize this last point).

If I need a new car, I can go and buy a new car, but if something happens to my body, I can't go get a new one.

	<p>And my teddy bear. There's lots of teddy bears in the stores but they're not the same as my special bear. It gives the best hugs.</p> <p>I have a favourite place in my home. Where do you like to play?</p> <p>Did you know that if that place where you play burnt, you may not be able to play there again.</p>
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Teaching Point #3

Safety (how children can protect themselves)

<p>3.1 Little fires become bigger fires</p> <p>Use your fingers as the children count out the numbers</p> <p>Cup hands and point to floor</p> <p>Spread hand to indicate expansion of fire</p> <p>3.2 Introduction of matches and lighter safety rules</p> <p>Hold up matches/lighter teaching aids to show the children, one in each hand</p> <p>Hold up picture card of birthday cake</p> <p>Hold up picture card of candle/curtain fire</p> <p>Hold up picture card of fireplace</p> <p>Hold up picture card of house on fire</p> <p>Hold up picture card of campfire</p> <p>Hold up picture card of forest fire</p> <p>If the children ask about the wildlife, eg can the animals get away, say "Not always."</p>	<p>Now lets talk about what we should know, so that things don't burn.</p> <p>Did you know that little fires can become bigger fires?</p> <p>Fire burns very fast. Help me to count to 10.</p> <p>If I had a little fire here, and I counted to 10, the whole room would be burning when I reached 10.</p> <p>That's how fast fire burns.</p> <p>There are some rules we should remember so fires don't start.</p> <p>Do you know what these are?</p> <p>That's right. This is a lighter and these are matches. But these are only pretend. What are matches for?</p> <p>That's right, big people use matches and lighters to light candles on your birthday cakes.</p> <p>This is what can happen when people aren't careful with candles.</p> <p>Fireplaces can keep you warm and cozy. Only big people should light a fire in the fireplace.</p> <p>Maybe someone was playing with matches or a lighter. And now the toys are burning, the clothing is burning, and the special place to play is burning.</p> <p>Big people light campfires outside, for cooking food and snacks and for keeping warm.</p> <p>When people are careless outside, forest fires start.</p> <p>And everything in the forest will be gone. Everything that is wonderful about the forest.</p> <p>Remember how fast fire burns?</p>
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<p>3.3 Matches and lighters are not toys</p> <p>Show matches/lighter teaching aids, one in each hand</p> <p>When the children return the matches/lighter, just formally say...</p> <p>3.4 Tell other children to give them to an adult</p> <p>Enlist the help of the caregiver/teacher and one child to play act where the caregiver/teacher pretends to be a child finding matches/lighter. Enlist the real child's help in determining the appropriate behavior, whereby the child would tell the pretend child to give the matches/lighter to an adult.</p>	<p>Matches and lighters are not toys. If you find matches or a lighter, what should you do?</p> <p>That's right. Bring them to a big person.</p> <p>I've got something for you to do. I have hidden pretend matches and lighters just like these in the room. I'd like each of you to go and find one and bring it back to me. 1..... 2..... 3..... GO!</p> <p>...Thank you very much.</p> <p>Lets all sit down now. Everyone did very well.</p> <p>Why do you think you should bring matches and lighters to big people?</p> <p>So you don't start a fire and you don't get hurt.</p> <p>Could one of you (pointing to caregiver/teacher) select one of the children and pretend you are a child finding one of these matches (use matches teaching aid).</p> <p>If someone else finds matches or a lighter. It is important that you tell them to give them to a big person.</p> <p>That's how we can help our brothers and sisters and our friends.</p>
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Teaching Point #4

Keep matches and lighters out of the reach of children

<p>4.1 Matches and lighters should be kept out of the reach of children</p> <p>Put matches and lighter teaching aids on a high shelf</p> <p>Pick up matches and lighter teaching aids from the shelf</p>	<p>If we find matches or a lighter in our house, we should remind mommy and daddy to put them up high out of our reach.</p> <p>When I take these back I have a special cupboard way up high where I keep them.</p>
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Teaching Point #5

Review of fire safety

<p>5.1 Review what has been learned so far</p> <p>Use analogy of "a burn is like the sting of a thousand bees"</p> <p>Hold up picture cards again</p> <p>Show pretend matches and lighters</p> <p>Put pretend matches and lighters in the kit</p>	<p>Now lets see what we've learned today.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What bad things can happen when there is a fire? 2. How does a burn feel? 3. What are good fires? 4. What are bad fires? 5. Are matches and lighters toys? 6. What would you do if you found matches or a lighter? 7. What would you do if your friend, brother or sister found matches or a lighter? 8. What should big people do with their matches and lighters?
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Teaching Point #6

Reinforcement of messages

<p>6.1 Introduce the video</p> <p>Make a brief statement of what the video is about</p> <p>6.2 Show the video</p> <p>6.3 Briefly summarize message of video</p>	<p>Now that everybody has listened, I have a special treat.</p> <p>This movie is about two very special friends of mine, Nero and Ashcan.</p> <p>Nero is a little boy who thought about playing with fire, but his friend Ashcan the cat helps him to be cool with fire.</p> <p>Let's see what happens!</p> <p>Wasn't that a great movie?</p> <p>What are you going to do if you find matches or a lighter?</p> <p>As Ashcan says, Be Cool With Fire and <u>never</u> play with matches or a lighter. Give them to a big person right away!</p>
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Teaching Point #7

Promoting fire safety in the home

<p>7.1 Give the children something to take home</p> <p>Hand out Nero and Ashcan read-along booklet</p>	<p>I have a special treat for you. You can take these home and have your mommy or daddy read them to you.</p> <p>There are some important fire safety message for your mommy and daddy to read.</p> <p>I had a lot of fun, I hope you had fun too. It was nice meeting all of you.</p>
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