The Great Escape

Age Group: 4-6

Purpose: To discuss with the children/child some fire safety rules at school and/or at home

Materials: *Freddie the Firefighter* activity sheets, some fire items for display: such as fire hats, play fire hydrant, water hose, matches, firemen's boots, pencils and crayons, a play telephone (rotary, push button, and cell)

Procedure: Have a practice fire drill several times this month. Establish an alternate route if one of the doorways should be blocked. Also have the children/child establish a fire escape route for their families at home. Review and demonstrate --- Stop, Drop, Roll method of putting out a fire if your clothes should catch on fire. Emphasis to them that running will "***FAN THE FLAMES***".

* Go outside and demonstrate how air keeps flames burning, but getting rid of air will put the flames out. By using a small piece of paper, matches, and a see-though glass covering (to smother the flames), demonstrate this technique.

* Go over to the fire props you brought and explain how they are used.

* teach them or have on display the local fire department number and have them dial that number on their play phones. (This is a good time to review dialing 911 too.)

* On the internet, pull up activity worksheets for *Freddie the Firefighter,* or visit your local library to acquire firefighter activity worksheets that you can copy and reinforce this lesson in a fun way. Some are available with matching lowercase letters to capital letters using drawn fire hats and fire boots. You can draw some on your own if you need to and have the children match, trace dot-to-dot upper and lower case numbers written in the center of these hats and boots, as well as color them.

Evaluation: Ask these questions to your group or individual child:

- What route would you use to escape if the first door was blocked?
- What would happen if you ran instead of STOP, DROP, ROLL, if your shirt caught on fire?
- Where could you escape at home if the front door was blocked?
- Can you show me a Stop, Drop, and Roll?