



Interactive lesson: Fire safety at school

Lesson plan



Lesson topic: Fire safety presentation



Duration: 45-90 minutes



Learning objectives:	Content:
1. Students can identify fire safety arrangements in the school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Firefighting equipment, fire safety systems, emergency exit signs and fire doors
2. Students can explain the operating principles of fire safety equipment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Operating principles of firefighting equipment, emergency exit signs and fire doors

Compatibility with the national core curriculum (OPS):	
Transversal competencies: Taking care of oneself and managing daily life (L3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• "Students learn to anticipate and avoid dangerous situations and act appropriately in the event of an accident or emergency."
Health education: Positive and negative health factors and prevention of diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• T6 To support students' development in obtaining and using information related to health and diseases and promote students' ability to act appropriately in situations related to health, safety and diseases.• S2: The lessons also cover safety skills and preparedness, first aid, self-care and how to seek support and help.

Preparing the teaching space and materials

- Choose the format of the lesson. In this material, you can find a ready-made grid for bingo and spot-and-name tasks.

Supplies

- Students will need pens for writing.
- Cameras (such as classroom tablet computers or similar) for spotting and naming safety equipment.



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Course of the lesson

START

- Explain the topic and learning objectives of the lesson to students.
After the lesson...
 1. Students can identify fire safety equipment found in the school.
 2. Students can explain the operating principles of fire safety equipment.
- Under the teacher's direction, take the class for a small walkaround of the school to locate and identify different fire safety equipment and systems.

Look for the following:

- smoke alarm
- fire alarm bell
- sprinkler head
- fire alarm button
- handheld fire extinguisher
- fire hydrant
- fire door
- fire blanket
- emergency exit sign
- (assembly point sign - usually outdoors)

1. SECTION: Task for small groups

- The teacher divides the students into small groups and hands each group a fire safety tool or device from the above list, for example.
- Assignment:

Groups must prepare a short presentation* on the given topic related to fire safety. The presentation should include:

- ✓ the name of the device or tool
- ✓ its operating principle - how does it work?
- ✓ a description of how the device is used or what the response to it should be in the event of fire
- ✓ why misusing the device or tool is harmful and what damage misuse can cause.

* The presentation can be in the form of an info card or a small board placed near the fire safety equipment in question. This way, other students of the school can also read about the device and how it works. Alternatively, the presentation can be in the form of a poster, PowerPoint slides or similar.

SECTION 2: Identifying fire hazards

- When the presentations are ready, each group takes turns to present their work to the class.



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Course of the lesson

ALTERNATIVE TEACHING METHODS:

Safety equipment bingo

- The teacher divides students into small groups and gives each group or member of the group a bingo card.
- Students are instructed to go around the school to find the equipment/tools/signs marked on the card and write down their locations.
- Once all the devices in the card are located, the students can call bingo.

Point-and-name safety equipment

- Students are given a blank grid and tasked with going around the school to write down the names and locations of fire safety equipment.
- When the grid is full, students can call bingo.
- You can also search online for videos on how safety equipment work and watch them together.

Safety equipment scavenger hunt

- Look at the evacuation plan found in the classroom showing the floor plan of the school and the locations of safety equipment.
- Students are tasked with going to the locations shown in the map to look for fire safety devices and tools and take photos of them.
- Once ready, students show the photos to the teacher or look at them together with the class so that everyone learns the locations of the safety equipment.
- Once all the devices in the bingo card are found, the students can call bingo.
- You can also search online for videos on how safety equipment work and watch them together.



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Additional material for the teacher:

Possible fire safety equipment and signs

- **Handheld fire extinguishers:** are placed in schools according to their purpose of use for easy access. There are many types of fire extinguishers that work in different ways. The extinguishing agent is effective in putting out a small fire. Handheld extinguishers are designed to be easy to use so that anyone can use them if necessary. Emptying a fire extinguisher intentionally for no reason causes a huge mess that is expensive to clean.
- **Fire blankets:** used for putting out a fire by smothering it. Fire blankets can often be found in the home economics class.
- **Fire hydrant:** intended for anyone to use if a fire breaks out. To function, the fire hydrant faucet needs to be on to let water in the hose. Vandalising a fire hydrant causes costly water damage.
- **Exit signs:** glow in the dark or include lighting. Point to the shortest way out of the building. Exit routes should be kept clear and clean at all times.
- **Fire doors and compartments:** prevent the spread of fire between areas. Fire doors close automatically and should not be obstructed to prevent them from closing. The front of the door must be kept clear of unnecessary objects and clutter
- **Smoke alarms and detectors:** detect smoke and trigger an alarm. In schools, the smoke alarm often also automatically alerts the rescue department. Smoke alarms in homes should be tested regularly.
- **Automatic extinguishing systems** (such as sprinklers): produce water mist when triggered. Damaging a sprinkler will result in expensive water damage.
- **Fire alarm button:** triggers an alarm in the building when pressed. The alarm is relayed to the rescue department. A false alarm leads to an unnecessary visit by the rescue department, which can cause someone in need to be left out from help. After pressing the alarm button, it is always necessary to also call the emergency number 112 to specify what the alarm is about (fire, gas leak, accident or other emergency that calls for rescue services).
- **Fire alarm bell:** will ring during an alarm. Located so that everyone in the building or section can hear the alarm. In addition to an alarm bell, there may be a flashing light for hard-of-hearing people present or if the space is normally very noisy.
- **Assembly point:** familiar from fire safety drills. A shared assembly point helps teachers make sure that everyone has exited the building. What to do at the assembly point: report to the teacher, don't wander off on your own, listen to instructions, return to the school building only after given permission.

<https://paloturvallisuusviikko.fi/paloturvallisuusvinkit/koulun-tarkistuslista/> (in Finnish)



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Bingo card

Bingo card		