

SAFETY WALK! (90 min.)

OBJECTIVES

- The objective of the safety walk is to introduce the school building to pupils. During the walk, the locations of exits, primary extinguishing equipment and first aid kits are shown. Pupils are informed of the various hazards and safety solutions. During the safety walk, pupils observe their everyday environment and participate in the safety discussion concerning the school.

SKILLS

Everyday skills and taking care of oneself, multiliteracy

IMPLEMENTATION

Health education, home economics, form tutor's class, chemistry, social studies, first language

EQUIPMENT AND ADVANCE PREPARATIONS

To ensure that the lesson is a success, teachers should familiarise themselves with the school building and yard in advance. When going for a safety walk, take pens and notepads, smartphones or tablet computers and any keys required for locked premises. The teacher gives the below form for each small group or pair.

The checklist can be completed electronically, for example on a tablet, or the form can be printed out for the pupils. Observations made during the safety walk are documented on the checklist. Notes and observations can also be collected by taking photos or videos and shared later, for example, through Padlet.

INFORMATION CONTENT

NouHätä! lessons Preventing fires and What to do in case of fire

INSTRUCTIONS

Safety walk means a walking tour during which you discuss the hazards and risks at your school. The safety walk involves touring the school building and making observations. The walk can be led by the teacher or pupils.

During the walk, pupils familiarise themselves with the safety-related issues in the school building and yard by paying attention to, for example, signs, exit maps, the assembly point, primary fire extinguishing equipment, exit routes, the materials used in the building and inside the building, fire doors, first aid kits and the school's rules. Safety walks can include a tour of the yard; knowing where the assembly point is located is especially important.

ASSIGNMENT FOR PUPILS

1. Familiarise yourself in advance with the form provided by the teacher.
2. Walk through the school building and surroundings.
 - Use the form for support. If you notice any defects, take a photo of them so that the defects can be rectified.
 - After the walk, gather in the classroom and prepare a summary of any safety defects you noticed.
 - During the safety walk, pupils are asked to consider what could be done to further improve the safety of the school.

REVIEWING THE RESULTS

At the end of the lesson, review the pupils' observations and ideas for improving your school's safety. You can collect all ideas, for example, on the board or on paper so that everyone can see them.

We recommend that good ideas are promoted so that the safety of the everyday school life is developed.

Checked

1. Check the exits at your school and their locations.
Are exit signs in place and in order?

Checked:

Checked

2. See how the doors of exits can be opened and where they lead to. Everyone does this by turns. You must be able to open the doors from the inside: they must not be locked in a way that prevents you from opening them from the inside.

Observations:

Checked

3. Where is the school's assembly point? What should you do when you assemble there?

Observations:

Checked

4. Does the school have fire detectors or other fire safety technology?

Observations:

Checked

5. If the school has an automatic fire detector: Locate the detector on the ceiling. Find out how the fire detector works. It monitors the premises and detects if a fire starts. In case of a fire, the detector sets off a fire alarm in the school and forwards the fire alarm to the emergency centre. Please keep in mind that detectors are not sprinklers and they will not spray water.

Observations:

Checked

6. Where are the fire alarm buttons located and how do you use them?
No tools are needed for pushing the button. Just push the button with your thumb. The glass is covered with a plastic film so that it will not cut you. If you notice a fire, you can quickly raise a fire alarm by pushing the fire alarm button. You should also make an emergency call just to be on the safe side. Please note that the button must not be pushed unnecessarily.

Observations:

Checked

7. Check if your school has sprinklers. Sprinklers are ceiling-mounted automatic water extinguishing equipment. If a fire that has started is not extinguished, the sprinkler equipment will turn on automatically. The equipment is designed to detect fires as early as possible, to activate and spray extinguishing water on the fire.

Observations:

Checked

8. Locate the primary extinguishing equipment and check that they have been marked correctly. Read the instructions for using handheld extinguishers. In addition, you can test the first aid hose system by running water into a bucket. The hose is drained and placed back in the cabinet.

Observations:

Checked

9. Locate the fire doors in your school building. Especially all doors leading to stairways must remain closed.

Observations:

Checked

10. Does the school have a public address system? Are there any ready-made announcements? Who is responsible for announcements in case of an emergency? Which types of situations are such emergencies?

Observations:

Checked

11. Where is the school's emergency shelter? You use the emergency shelter only in exceptional situations, not when there is a fire. Find out what is the sign used for civil protection.

Observations:

Checked

12. Check the chemistry classroom and the premises for wood and metal work in your school. Please run through the risks and hazards in the classroom. Check that first aid kits and fire extinguishers can be easily found and that hazardous substances are kept in a safe place.

Observations:

Checked

13. Go to the school yard and check the emergency access roads. They must always be accessible, which means that no cars can be parked on the routes and they must not otherwise be obstructed.

Observations:
