**Kindergarten: Little Rosalie**

Today we had a lot of fun with a new friend, Rosalie. We learned the importance of having a written escape plan, along with a specified meeting place, in case of a fire in our homes. We also learned that we need to practice our escape plan regularly so we know exactly what to do!

After finding out how many different things the Fire Department does to keep us safe, and to help us when something happens, we were introduced to Rosalie, a kindergartener like your child. She had learned about fire escape planning (maybe from a fire department visit, too!), and had her family create a plan specifically for their situation. Then the parents set up a practice session! Even though her younger brother was scared at first because the fire alarm was so LOUD, Rosalie helped him, and they followed the four steps they had learned and went safely to their outside meeting place. High fives all around!

The four steps she had learned, and what we learned today, are that when you hear the smoke alarm go **‘beep . . .beep . . . beep’** you should:

* *First*, get up and walk. Don’t run, but you should walk briskly, leaving all your toys.
* *Second*, make sure you know two ways out of every room!
* *Third*, get yourself outside quickly (and shut the door behind you).
* *Fourth*, go to your outdoor meeting place and wait for your family.

You may want to watch the Little Rosalie video (<http://sparkyschoolhouse.org/digital-backpack/#generic-video-modal>) several times with your kindergartener, and even with older children, to help the youngsters understand the four steps. Then, with them involved, create a plan that includes all four steps, and practice it until they have it down pat. You should probably put some stress on the outside meeting place so you can know immediately that everyone is safe. Plus, when the firefighters arrive, they can learn immediately if they need to rescue anyone.

There are other fire prevention and safety website. Some of them are:

* <http://www.sparky.org/> and <http://sparkyschoolhouse.org/digital-backpack/>,
* <https://www.facebook.com/GlobalEdmonton/videos/vb.7078490926/10154603772010927/?type=2&theater>
* [http://twigglemagazine.com/September-activities/Fire-safety-kids-activities-lesson.html#](http://twigglemagazine.com/September-activities/Fire-safety-kids-activities-lesson.html)
* <https://www.verywell.com/fun-activity-ideas-for-teaching-fire-safety-616821>
* <http://www.apples4theteacher.com/holidays/fire-safety/>

Fire safety is one of the most important things your child can learn, and being able to safely leave a burning building, or knowing how to stay safe if they cannot get out, is valuable to them for the rest of their lives..

***Thank you for letting us help your youngster learn about fire and life safety!!***