

Making SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE Choices

What is Risky Behavior?



An action that is full of the possibility of danger, failure or loss

Examples of Risky Behavior:

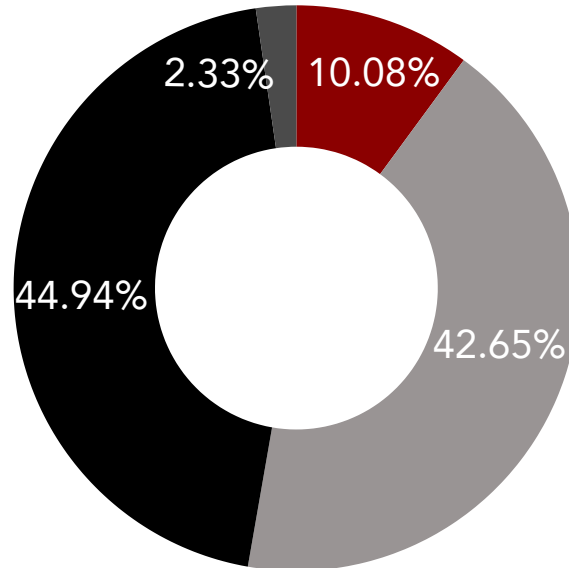
- Playing with matches
- Building a large bonfire
- Leaving cooking unattended
- Social media challenges

Actions to Avoid Risky Behavior:

- Walk away from the situation
- Avoid individuals or groups prone to risky behavior
- Say *NO* to peer pressure
- Report incidents to adults
- Use humor to steer peers away from risky choices

Fires Caused By Youth Separated By Age: 2014-2018

● > 6 yo ● 6-11 yo ● 11-17 yo ● 18+



Source: NFIRS and NFPA Fire Experience Survey

WEIGHING THE OUTCOMES OF PLAYING WITH FIRE

Negative Outcomes:

- Can start a fire
- Can get injured
- Can damage property
- Could be illegal



Perceived Positive Outcomes:

- Fun
- Social
- Celebratory
- Attention

Fire Safety Tips

- **Stay focused** while cooking. Limit distractions, use a timer, and always stand by your pan.
- **Keep heater vents clear** of furniture, decorations, or other objects.
- **Charge devices safely.** Use only the manufacturer's charger, keep charging areas clear of beds or blankets, and unplug electronics when they're fully charged or not in use.
- **Practice candle safety.** Keep candles at least three feet from anything that can burn, and place matches and lighters out of children's reach.
- **Do laundry safely.** Clean the dryer lint screen before every use to prevent buildup and reduce fire risk.
- **Plan ahead.** Make sure everyone in the home knows your fire escape plan and how to get out safely in an emergency.



- Does your child play with lighters or matches?
- Are you concerned about possible fire-setting behavior?
- For more information, contact education@centralpiercefirerescue.org



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FIRE & RESCUE**

www.centralpiercefirerescue.org
253-538-6400