



## FIRE IS...

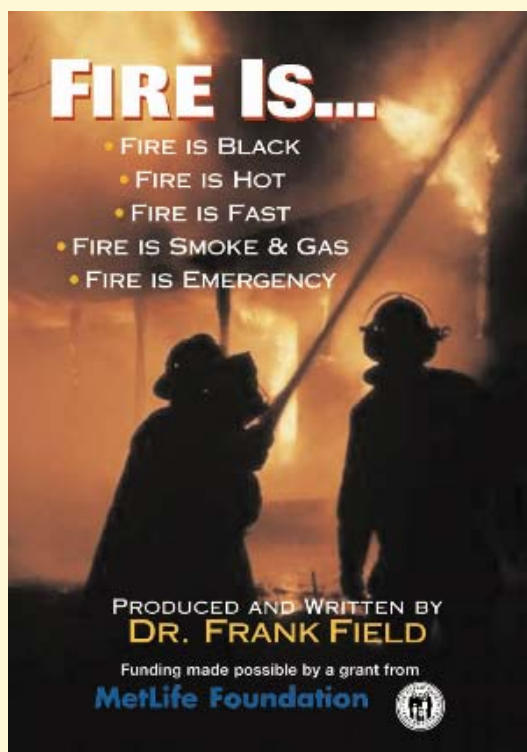
### *Instructor's Guide*

### Fire Education Program, Grades 3-6

Dear Fire Prevention Educator:  
Welcome.

FIRE IS... introduces a new approach to teaching fire prevention and life-saving techniques aimed at children in grades 3-6. Unlike the "fun" approach you may be used to, where children visit the firehouse and are given coloring books and watch animated videos, FIRE IS presents to children exactly what a fire is—dangerous!

Developed by Dr. Frank Field, this realistic, but not scary, approach teaches children how to save their own lives.



### FIRE IS...

DVD video provided

Additional material needed:  
DVD projector & this  
course outline

### VIDEO CHAPTERS

- FIRE IS BLACK
- FIRE IS HOT
- FIRE IS FAST
- FIRE IS SMOKE & GAS
- FIRE IS AN EMERGENCY

### Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives

The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) developed the Everyone Goes Home program to save firefighters lives. The 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives are real-world tools you and your fire department can adopt. The Everyone Goes Home pro-

gram is providing FIRE IS to you in the hopes that you will take it to your local school to begin introducing the concept of reality-based fire prevention education for children grades 3-6. Remember, every time a house fire is prevented, a fellow fire-

fighter is not injured or killed. By teaching children to help prevent household fires and how to react in a helpful manner, we are ensuring that Everyone Goes Home!

For more information visit our website at:

[www.everyonegoeshome.com](http://www.everyonegoeshome.com)

"This DVD is a must-show in any public presentation...As a public safety officer, I would like to thank you. Children & parents must better understand the severity and power of fire."

Fire Prevention  
Officer

## FIRE IS BLACK!

**Time:** 23 Minutes

After viewing this chapter, students should be able to discuss basic fire behavior in a residential setting. Have them discuss characteristics of TV fires they have seen, versus the fires they have just seen in FIRE IS. They should understand that smoke rises initially, but quickly thickens, turns black and lowers. Students in this age group will be able to remember key phases such as GET LOW AND GO.

### Discussion Points After Viewing:

- Smoke rises to ceiling & is trapped.
- Smoke thickens, turns black & lowers to the floor.
- Don't stand up in the smoke.
- Thick smoke irritates throat and causes coughing.



Fire is Black, not like in the movies or on TV  
**GET LOW AND GO**

- Smoke affects vision—eyes burn and tear and you can't see.
- Get down low below the smoke and get out quickly.
- Have an escape plan.
- Don't waste time.
- **GET OUT.**

## FIRE IS HOT!

**Time:** 15 minutes

After viewing this chapter, ask students what they learned about the dynamics of fire.

### Discussion Points After Viewing:

- Tiny flames grow rapidly into

large fires

- Heat rises to the ceiling, is trapped and the room grows hotter.
- Temperatures rises to hundreds of degrees—cooler air stays lower.
- All materials ignite at high

enough tem-  
peratures.

- **GET LOW,** beneath the smoke and heat, and **GET OUT!**

**To catch the students' attention, let them feel free to ask questions about the real nature of a residential fire**

## FIRE IS FAST!

**Time:** 11 minutes

Generally, students will not be aware of how quickly a fire can spread. Get them to talk about fires they have seen in the media and then tell them how fast a real fire spreads.



The fire in this bedroom may be only one or two minutes old

### Discussion Points After Viewing:

- A tiny flame can flare out of control in seconds.
- A single match can burn down a large building.
- Fires spread

rapidly—don't fight the fire—**GET OUT!**

- In a real fire, you have only a few minutes to escape
- Never hide from a fire.
- If trapped, get to a window and make a lot of noise—scream and yell for help.

## FIRE IS SMOKE AND GAS!

**TIME:** 18 minutes

Most people, including your students, think that people who are injured or who die in fires, are burned. In fact, most civilians suffer primarily from smoke- and gas-related injuries. During discussion, point out that many firefighters die fighting routine, ordinary house fires. Make sure they know that when they play with matches or other lighter devices, they are risking the lives of firefighters as well as their family members.

### Discussion Points After Viewing

- Smoke is more than a nuisance.
- Smoke is the most dangerous part of a fire.
- Smoke burns your eyes and doesn't let you see.
- Smoke causes coughing.
- Smoke contains



Do everything you can to keep firefighters safe—they can get hurt from smoke and gas too..

all kinds of poisons that make you sick .

- Smoke turns very hot and can burn your lungs—it can hurt you just like smoking can hurt you—only faster.
- GET LOW under the smoke and go to an exit.
- Have an escape plan and move quickly.

## FIRE IS AN EMERGENCY!

**TIME:** 18 Minutes

Present the students with a few residential fire scenarios to test what they have learned. You don't have to make the scenarios complicated, just realistic.

### Discussion Points After Viewing

- Smoke detectors give an early warning to get out.
- Time is against you—move quickly.
- Fires are hot, black and fast.
- Don't waste time looking for toys, pets or anything.

- GET LOW and get out fast.
- It's a race between you and the fire.

Help students to prevent Line-of-Duty-Deaths by making the connection between house fires & firefighters who are needlessly killed in them.

## About Dr. Frank Field

Dr. Frank Field is a famous science editor and meteorologist who has spent 50 years reporting for the local NBC, CBS and Fox networks in New York City. He became passionate about fire prevention in 1987 when he read the alarming statistics regarding civilian fire death and injury rates in the United States—especially as they compared to other nations.

Dr. Field wrote and developed this exceptional video for children based on his extensive reporting experience and research. He has spent hours, side by side with his adult children Allison and Storm, who are also reporters, learning how children can best be taught the very serious message of how to survive a residential house fire. Dr. Field is an award-winning scientist and fire prevention educator.



# FIRE IS...

Was made possible by a grant from the MetLife Foundation

## MetLife Foundation

Distribution of FIRE IS... to every fire department in the United States is made possible through the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, Department of Homeland Security, and support from the Fireman's Fund Insurance Company



The Everyone Goes Home Program was developed under the auspices of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation.



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[www.Firehero.org](http://www.Firehero.org)  
[www.everyonegoeshome.com](http://www.everyonegoeshome.com)

## The 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives

1. Define and advocate the need for a cultural change within the fire service relating to safety, incorporating leadership, management, supervision, accountability and personal responsibility.
2. Enhance the personal and organizational accountability for health and safety throughout the fire service.
3. Focus greater attention on the integration of risk management with incident management at all levels including strategic, tactical, and planning responsibilities.
4. All firefighters must be empowered to stop unsafe practices.
5. Develop and implement national standards for training, qualifications, and certification (including regular recertification) that are equally applicable to all firefighters based on the duties they are expected to perform.
6. Develop and implement national medical and physical fitness standards that are equally applicable to all firefighters based on the duties they are expected to perform.
7. Create a national research agenda and data collection system that are related to the initiatives.
8. Utilize available technology whenever it can produce higher levels of health and safety.
9. Thoroughly investigate all firefighter fatalities, injuries and near misses.
10. Grant programs should support the implementation of safe practices and/or mandate safe practices as an eligibility requirement.
11. National standards for emergency response policies and procedures should be developed and championed.
12. National protocols for response to violent incidents should be developed and championed.
13. Firefighters and their families must have access to counseling and psychological support.
14. Public education must receive more resources and be championed as a critical fire and life safety program.
15. Advocacy must be strengthened for the enforcement of codes and the installation of home sprinklers.
16. Safety must be a primary consideration in the design of apparatus and equipment.