



## **Fire Stoppers - Children's Fire Prevention Program**

**If your child has played with or set a fire, or shown an interest or curiosity about fire, they need education about fire safety.**

### **If your child has misused fire...**

The Tacoma Fire Department offers a free, confidential education program for children who show curiosity about fire, or who have started a fire. The Fire Stoppers Program engages children's interest and is informative for parents as well.

### **The Program at a Glance**

#### *Requirements*

The Fire Stoppers program is not a "class", but rather an individualized program to help families address the issue of child fire use. Children are eligible if they live in the City of Tacoma, are not being investigated for a fire related crime, and the child's legal guardian is willing to participate. There is no fee for this service. There are typically 2-4 visits to the complete the program.

### **Location**

The initial session is held at our Fire Prevention Bureau at 3471 S. 35<sup>th</sup> St. Tacoma, WA 98409. The initial meeting will take approximately 1 hour and appointments are available during normal business hours.

### **Program Outline**

The Fire Department interventionist (typically a firefighter or fire educator) meets in a non-threatening and confidential atmosphere with the child and family.

A brief interview of the child and caregiver gives information from which an individualized education program is developed for the child.

Through the use of educational videos and homework assignments, participants will learn, the dynamics of fire behavior, taking personal responsibility for safety, learning good decision making skills, match/lighter safety, legal implications of fire use, and parental roles strategies. Parents are provided with a handbook with detailed information on addressing firesetting behavior. Homework is provided for the child and family to reinforce the concepts introduced in the program.

**To contact the Fire Stoppers Program call 591.5740 during Business Hours.**

