

SCIENCE 1 - WHAT BURNS AND HOW

Grade Level: 6 - 8

Suggested Time: 15 minutes

Overview

Students will learn about the science and mechanics of fire, and use that information to explain the reasoning behind fire safety strategies. This topic includes the definition of fire and the necessary components for fire to burn.

Objectives

Student learn that heat, fuel and oxygen are necessary for fire to burn, and how fires can be extinguished.

Resources/Props/Preparation

- [Fire Triangle presentation \(pdf\)](#)
- Fire Triangle Movie at:
http://www.glosfire.gov.uk/cd_res/KS3/downloads/Activity%201.1%20Fire%20Triangle%20Movie.wmv
- [Fire Triangle worksheet \(pdf\)](#)

The Lesson

- Have a class discussion to determine prior knowledge. Ask the students: “What is fire?” (a chemical reaction), and see if they can identify the 3 components that must react to keep fire burning (fuel, oxygen, heat).
- Show the “Fire Triangle” presentation or movie, which explains how fuel, oxygen, and heat are all needed for fire to burn. The presentation/movie also gives examples of solids, liquid, and gas fuels, and explains that if one component is missing or removed, the fire will be extinguished.
- Have students complete the Fire Triangle worksheet, which provides students with a fire prevention or treatment, and asks students to identify which part of the Fire Triangle is being eliminated.