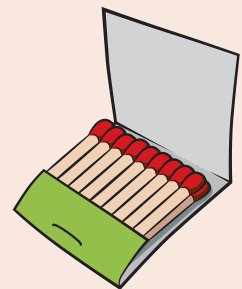


Youth Fire Misuse STATISTICS

- 39% of home fires involving youth fire misuse start in the bedroom, where lots of things catch on fire easily.
- Older children frequently play with fire outside the home, at the bus stop or in vacant lots.
- Children are under the false impression that they can control the fires they set.
- Many children who set fires lack both parental supervision and fire safety education.
- Juveniles account for more than 50 percent of all arson arrests in the United States.
- Nationally, children who play with fire cause nearly 49,300 fires per year which result in approximately 80 civilian deaths and more than 860 injuries.
- Youth Fire Misuse does an estimated 235 million dollars in damage annually.
- It takes about two minutes for the flame from a single match to set an entire room on fire, and less than five minutes for that fire to overtake an entire house.
- Fires that youth set to structures cause an average of over \$22,600 in damages for each occurrence.
- Youth who misuse fire can be charged with a crime and may be prosecuted as an adult.
- Children under the age of 18 misusing fire cause 40 percent of residential fire-related deaths among children.
- Left untreated, children who misuse fires will repeat the behavior 81% of the time.

**• FIRE IS A TOOL NOT A TOY • FIRE IS DANGEROUS AND IT CAN KILL
ALL FIRES, EVEN SMALL ONES, CAN SPREAD QUICKLY**



1. What statistic did you find the most shocking?

2. Why did you find this statistic shocking?

3. What is one way that you could prevent that statistic from happening?

4. Where in the house do the majority of kids play with fire? Why do you think that is?
