

Help Prevent Serious Injuries

BE
BURN
AWARE



Shriners Children's stresses the importance of burn prevention

For more than 20 years, Shriners Children's has been working to help reduce the number of preventable pediatric burn injuries by increasing awareness of the causes of burn injuries and offering prevention tips.

Burn Awareness Week, observed annually during the first full week of February, is the kickoff of our yearlong educational campaign. Free materials available via our website, including tip sheets and fact cards, are designed to be a resource for firefighters, teachers, parents and others concerned with the safety and well-being of children.

Be Burn Aware

Burn Awareness Week is Feb. 4-10, 2024. Building on the theme *Be Burn Aware*, our efforts focus on preventing burn injuries in the home, because that's where the majority of preventable burn injuries occur. Homes are the sites of thousands of burn injuries to children every year, including scalds, fire-related injuries, electrical burns and flammable liquid burns. With some simple precautions, many of these types of injuries may be prevented.

We have found that educational efforts have an impact: In the U.S., the occurrence of major pediatric burn injuries has decreased since campaigns like this one have been in place.

Free Educational Materials Available

In addition to tip sheets and fact cards that emphasize the prevention of scalds, fire-related and electrical burns, Shriners Children's has also created an animated video, *Boots and Brewster: The Burn Awareness Pair*, which kids are sure to enjoy. In the video, available on beburnaware.org, Boots and Brewster take viewers on a fun and educational adventure that includes burn prevention lessons.

FAST FACTS ABOUT BURN INJURIES

FIRES

- Fires occur quickly. In less than 30 seconds a single flame can become a fire. In two minutes, it can become life-threatening; in five minutes a residence can be destroyed.
- Every year, hundreds of children under age 10 die in home fires.
- Fires and burns are a leading cause of injury-related fatalities among children under age 15.

SCALDS

- Young children have thinner skin that burns more quickly than adults'. People of all ages can be burned in 30 seconds by a flowing liquid that is 130° F; at 140° F, it takes only five seconds; at 160° F, it only takes one second. For children under 5, these temperatures can cause a burn in half the time.
- Hundreds of children are taken to the emergency room every day with burn injuries, including scalds.
- Most scald injuries occur in residences. Scald burns are typically related to ordinary activities, including bathing, cooking and eating.

All materials are available for viewing, ordering or downloading at beburnaware.org. To learn more, visit shrinerschildrens.org and beburnaware.org.



Burn Awareness
Preventing Burn Injuries