

# Sparky<sup>®</sup> Says: Stay Safe and Warm This Winter

Home  
Heating  
Information  
Sheet for  
Families



Dear Family,

**It's winter!** The days are shorter, the outside temperature is lower, and in some places it's cold, icy, and snowy. No matter where you live, winter brings a change in season and a **time to think about home-heating safety.**

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has developed the following **safety tips** and **fun family activity** to help you stay safe this winter.

Best wishes for a warm and safe winter season!



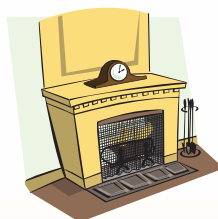
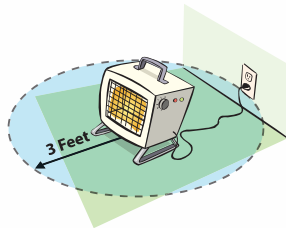
Turn the  
page for  
a fun Family  
Activity!

## Sparky's Home-Heating Safety Tips

Hang this checklist on your refrigerator to remember to stay safe and warm this (and every!) winter.

### Safety tips:

- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet from heating equipment (furnace, woodstove, or portable heater).
- Do not use your oven to heat your home.
- Portable space heaters should be turned off every time you leave the room and before going to bed.
- Make sure your fireplace has a sturdy screen to prevent sparks from flying into the room.
- Allow fireplace and woodstove ashes to cool before disposing in a metal container.



- Have heating equipment and chimneys inspected and cleaned every year.
- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home. Test smoke alarms monthly.
- Install and maintain carbon monoxide alarms to avoid the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.



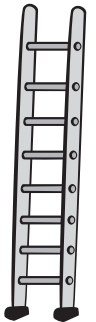
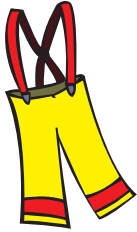


# FAMILY ACTIVITY



## A Warm Family Meal

Create a fun story the whole family will love! Work together to fill in the blanks (don't peek!). Then read the story aloud. Repeat again and again to make a new story each time! Have fun and be as silly as you want!!



- |                              |                               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Your Family's Name: _____ | 14. Plural Noun: _____        |
| 2. Adjective: _____          | 15. Adjective: _____          |
| 3. A Food: _____             | 16. Silly Adult Name: _____   |
| 4. A Food: _____             | 17. Same Girl's Name: _____   |
| 5. Kind of Animal: _____     | 18. Exclamation: _____        |
| 6. Pet Name: _____           | 19. Same Boy's Name: _____    |
| 7. Plural Food: _____        | 20. Adjective: _____          |
| 8. Silly Word: _____         | 21. An Emotion: _____         |
| 9. Boy's Name: _____         | 22. Animal Sound: _____       |
| 10. Silly Adult Name: _____  | 23. Pet Name: _____           |
| 11. Adjective: _____         | 24. Verb + ing: _____         |
| 12. Noun: _____              | 25. Your Family's Name: _____ |
| 13. Girl's Name: _____       | 26. Adjective: _____          |

The \_\_\_\_\_ (1. Your Family's Name) family enjoyed a \_\_\_\_\_ (2. Adjective) dinner of cheesy \_\_\_\_\_ (3. A Food) and buttery \_\_\_\_\_ (4. A Food). Their pet \_\_\_\_\_ (5. Kind of Animal), \_\_\_\_\_ (6. Pet Name), begged for \_\_\_\_\_ (7. Plural Food) at their feet.

"\_\_\_\_\_ (8. Silly Word), it's cold in here!" said \_\_\_\_\_ (9. Boy's Name). "Let's set up the space heater."

"After dinner," said \_\_\_\_\_ (10. Silly Adult Name). "First you have to move your \_\_\_\_\_ (11. Adjective) \_\_\_\_\_ (12. Noun). We need to leave three feet of space around the heater."

"Can we light a fire in the fireplace instead?" asked \_\_\_\_\_ (13. Girl's Name). "Then he won't have to move his stinky \_\_\_\_\_ (14. Plural Noun)."

"Very \_\_\_\_\_ (15. Adjective)," said \_\_\_\_\_ (16. Silly Adult Name). "Well, we did have the chimney cleaned and inspected this year. I also put a new screen in front of the fireplace."

"Plus, we tested our smoke alarms just last week," said \_\_\_\_\_ (17. Same Girl's Name). "\_\_\_\_\_ (18. Exclamation)!" shouted \_\_\_\_\_ (19. Same Boy's Name). "The \_\_\_\_\_ (20. Adjective) glow of the fireplace always makes me \_\_\_\_\_ (21. An Emotion)."

"\_\_\_\_\_ (22. Animal Sound)" exclaimed \_\_\_\_\_ (23. Pet Name), \_\_\_\_\_ (24. Verb + ing) around the room.

The \_\_\_\_\_ (25. Your Family's Name) laughed and enjoyed the \_\_\_\_\_ (26. Adjective) fireplace.