

# INDOOR ELECTRICAL SAFETY FOR KIDS



## You're In Charge!

You can avoid these dangers by following these important safety tips whenever electricity is near:

**Respect the Cord.** Electrical cords have wires inside them, carrying electricity from the wall socket to the TV, microwave, or other electrical product - so it's important to handle cords properly.

- Ask an adult if you want something plugged or unplugged.
- If given permission, only connect or disconnect a cord by the plug.
- Tell an adult when a cord is bent, cracked, or frayed.

**Water and Electricity Don't Mix.** The human body is made up mostly of water – so, swimming in water while being struck by lightning isn't the only way to experience shock or electrocution. Touching electricity directly or touching water that is in contact with electricity will also result in a shock or electrocution. In fact, this is the case for all liquids, not just water.

**Stop the Shock.** Stay away from electrical outlets, even when they're not in use.

- Keep electrical objects away from water, and water away from electrical objects.
- Keep away from cords when they're in use.
- Tell an adult when too many things are plugged into one outlet.
- Use only the plug part of a cord when plugging in or unplugging.

**Fight Fires Before They Start.** Tell an adult when something is too near a lamp, heater, or other hot surface.

- Keep water/drinks away from electrical outlets.
- Tell an adult when a cord is frayed, broken, or smoking.

**Get Out, Get Help and Call 9-1-1.** Use your escape route to get out of your home, school, or building.

Electricity is very powerful, and can cause fires, electrical shock and burn injuries if it is not used safely.

An estimated 53,000 electrical fires occur in U.S. homes each year. The good news is that most of these can be avoided by taking a few simple safety precautions.

Electrical fires and electrical shock and burn injuries from can be caused by many circumstances indoors, including:

- Frayed cords or fabrics and paper products placed too close to electrical heaters, lamps, and other hot surfaces
- Touching electrical sockets or frayed cords
- Unplugging an electrical device by pulling on the cord itself
- Touching water that is exposed to electricity
- Keep anything that uses electricity away from water and other liquids.
- Avoid showering/bathing during a storm. Electricity from lightning can travel through the water pipes.