

# DAD'S DINNER



A Fire Safety Story From  
Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service





The Smith Family: Mr. and Mrs. Smith (Dad and Mum) and their children Tim, Lilly and baby Cora, live in Cherry Tree Cottage.



They also have two pets: Jack the dog and Kitty the cat. Kitty likes to sleep in the tree next door.



Next door to the Smith family lives a lovely lady called Joan.

She likes to sit looking out her window and watching what is going on.



Across town the firefighters are on duty at the fire station. Firefighters Milly, Charley and Zac are in the yard practicing with the hose.



Back at Cherry Tree Cottage, baby Cora was getting restless, Mum decided to take her to on a walk to the park.

“Will you get dinner sorted please?” she asked Dad. “We will be back in time to eat. Make sure it’s yummy and healthy!”

And off she went to the park humming a little tune to Cora, “do de do doo, do de doo do.”



Lily and Tim went up to play in their rooms, they wanted to be out the way while Dad cooked dinner; he always made such a noise, clattering saucepans about and always managed to make such a mess.

Jack the dog sat eagerly by his bowl, hoping that he may get some food too.



Dad put on his apron to keep himself clean (he knew he was a messy cook!) "That's perfect" he said, "this will keep my clothes nice and clean. I will also put on my oven gloves to keep my hands safe from the heat"





Thinking of his rumbling tummy Dad wondered what to cook. "I know, I will make some delicious chicken and chips."

He turned the oven on and when it was hot enough, he put the food in the oven, using the oven gloves so he didn't burn himself.

"The cooker is very hot when it's on" he thought. "You need to be really careful around it"



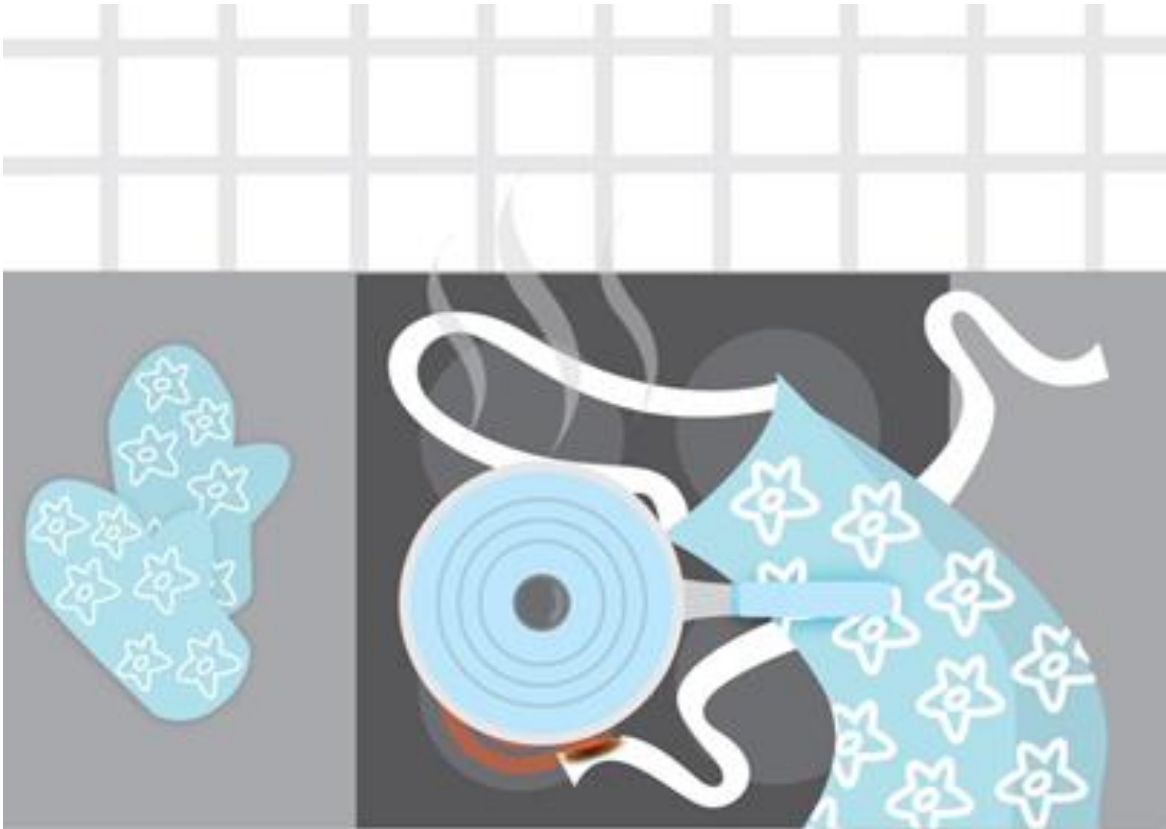
“Hmmm we need to make sure we eat our five a day.... I know, I can cook some healthy peas!”. He put some peas in water in a saucepan and put them on top of the cooker.

He was just about to turn the heat on when he noticed the handle of the saucepan was sticking out. “I must push that in.” he said “I don’t want to knock that over myself or Jack the dog. The cooker will soon heat the water up, so it is very hot. I will keep looking while I’m cooking” he thought “To make sure everything is safe”

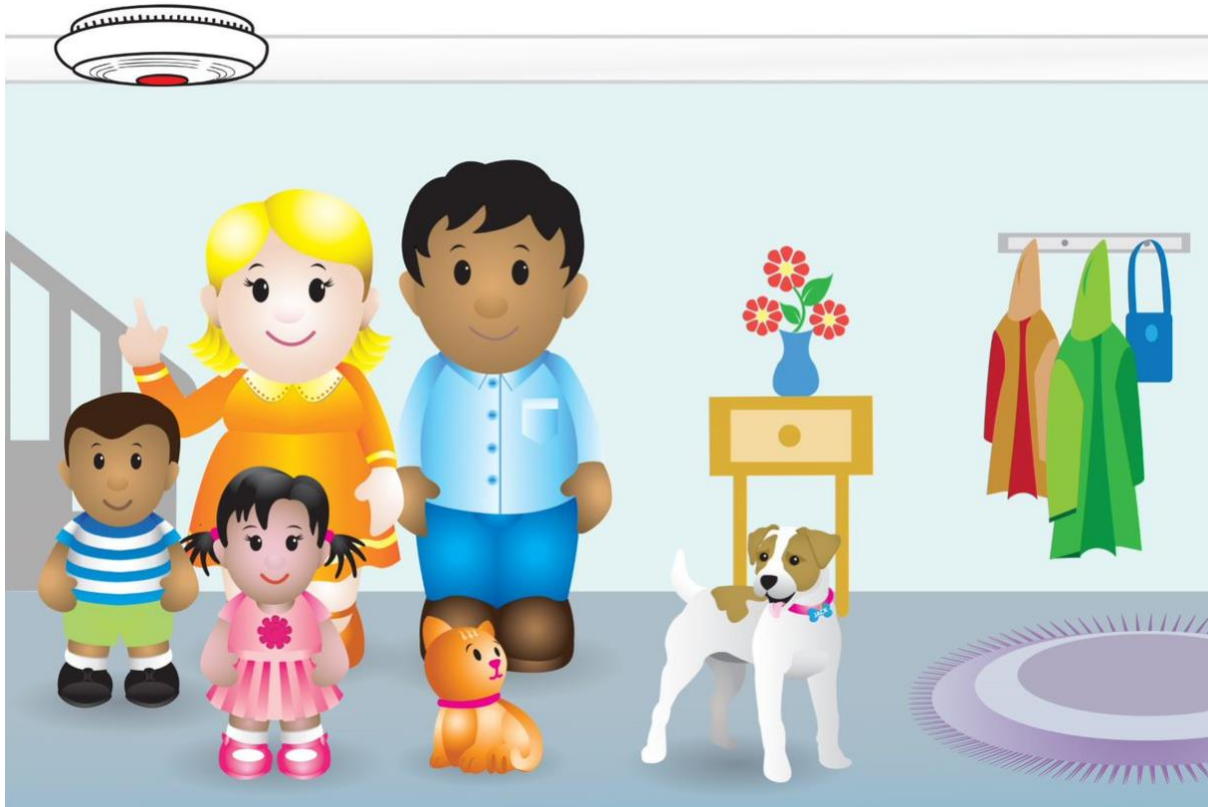


But then Dad heard his phone ringing.

“I need to answer that phone” he said “it’s probably a very important call”. He quickly took off his oven gloves and apron and rushed to find his phone which he could hear ringing in the living room.



Silly Dad had taken his apron off and dropped it on top of the cooker. Well at first there was a little bit of smoke, then there was a bit more smoke and then there was a lot of smoke....



In the hallway the family had a smoke alarm.  
A smoke alarm is like a nose. All it does all day is sniff. If it smells smoke it beeps loudly. "BEEP BEEP BEEP!"

The Smith family have a smoke alarm in their downstairs hallway and on the landing upstairs. Every week Mum or Dad tests the smoke alarm is working by pressing the button on it.

To help them remember the family have a little rhyme

"Sniff, sniff, sniff ,beep, beep, beep, we test our smoke alarms once a week."



When the smoke alarms smelt the smoke, it started beeping to warn everyone: BEEP! BEEP! BEEP!

Jack the dog heard the alarm and ran to the front door barking. Dad came out the living room shouting "Fire! Fire!" to make sure the children heard.

To make sure they could always easily get out the house in an emergency the family kept a door key on a hook near the door.



The children knew when they heard the smoke alarm they must "Get out, Stay out and call 999". They carefully went down the stairs to the front door and outside. Then they waited outside with their Dad and Jack the dog.

They had a special meeting place if the smoke alarm went off, under a tree in the front garden. Everyone in the family knew where to go if the alarm went off.



“We need to call 999” said Tim, but Dad had left his phone inside the house. He knew he should not go back in. “Once you are out, you stay out” he said.

He went next door and knocked loudly on Joan’s door. “Hello, is everything ok?” asked Joan “I can hear a noisy beeping sound”

“Oh hello Joan, err.. I have a bit of a kitchen fire, could I borrow your phone?” replied Dad. Joan passed Dad her mobile phone for him to use.





Dad dialed 999.

If there is a real emergency anyone can call 999 for help.

"Emergency services here what service do you require, police, ambulance or the fire service?" a voice asked

"Fire service please" Dad answered.

He was put through to the fire and rescue service control room.

"Hello this is the fire service, what's your address?". Asked the control room operator.

"1 Cherry Tree Cottage," said Dad, adding the rest of the address and the postcode

"And what is the problem?" asked the operator.

"There is a fire in kitchen" dad replied

"Is everyone out of the house?" continued the operator

."Yes" Dad answered

The operator spoke calmly as she gave instructions to Dad

"Make sure everyone stays out of the house and does not go back inside.

A fire engine is on its way to help"



While the operator was talking to Dad, she was sending instructions to the nearest fire station. Milly, Charley, Zac and the other firefighters heard the alarm sounding and quickly went to the fire engine. Milly stopped to get the “turn out instructions” which informs the firefighters what they are needed for. “It’s a house fire” she told the others as they all got into the fire engine and Charley put the lights and sirens on and he started to drive.



Back at Cherrytree Cottage, Mum had arrived back from the park with baby Cora. "What is going on?" she asked. "I need to get inside and change Cora's nappy"

"Mum! You can't go in; the kitchen is on fire!" cried Tim.

"Oh, but I need to, Cora really needs a change" Mum replied.

"No Mummy you mustn't" Lilly answered. "because there is a fire you must Get out, Stay out and Call 999"

In the distance they could hear the fire engine sirens, "Oh ok" said Mum, "we will wait outside where we are safe"



The firefighters arrived and quickly set to work to put the fire out.

“Oh no” cried Lily, “Where is Kitty? Is she ok? I have to go and find her!”

“No, you must stay out” said Charley who was at the back of the fire engine making sure the water got in the hoses ok “Who is Kitty?”

Lily explained she was her cat, Charley called up on his radio to tell the others there may be a cat inside.

He explained the firefighters will always do their best to rescue pets and other animals and try to put the fire out quickly.

Then they all heard a meowing, it was coming from the tree next door, there was Kitty sat in her favourite tree! She had run out the house herself.



The firefighters put the fire out and everyone was safe.

Once the firefighters had gone back to the fire station, ready for the next emergency, Joan invited the Smith Family round for tea at her house.

Everyone was pleased everyone was safe and so happy that their smoke alarm had beeped loudly to tell warn them and that they all knew to

Get out, stay out and call 999