



# Child Safety Around Gas Fireplaces

Tips for Parents and Caregivers



Three children under age 6 go to the ER every day for burns related to fireplaces, including gas fireplaces.



3rd degree burns are serious and can happen in less than 1 second from contact with the glass on the front of a gas fireplace.

500°F

glass on a gas fireplace



400°F

hair iron



350°F

baking cake



212°F

boiling water



Young children can be unsteady as they learn to walk, often using surfaces within their reach to pull themselves up.

Little ones have slower reflexes and may not be able to move their hands away quickly when they touch something hot.



Young kids have thinner skin on their palms than adults, which can lead to more serious burn injuries.



## Tips for Parents and Caregivers

- 💧 **Watch children around fireplaces.** When a gas fireplace is turned on, the glass is extremely hot and can take more than an hour to cool down after it is turned off. Keep children away from the fireplace to prevent burns from the hot glass.
- 💧 **Make sure your gas fireplace has a safety screen or safety gate.** These barriers help keep children away from the hot glass on fireplaces. If you need a safety screen, contact the fireplace retailer or manufacturer for the best option for your home.
- 💧 **Keep fireplace remote controls out of children's reach and sight.** Make sure children also stay away from on and off switches for gas fireplaces.
- 💧 **Think about places outside of your home with fireplaces.** When traveling to other homes, restaurants, hotels or resorts, there may not be a safety screen or safety gate installed. Keep children away from the fireplace and teach them not to touch the glass.
- 💧 **If there is an emergency, call the doctor or 9-1-1 immediately.** Physicians can give you information on how to treat a burn correctly.



For more information contact Safe Kids Grand Forks at 701.780.1489 or visit [safekidsgf.com](http://safekidsgf.com).

