

**"BOOTS"** *The Firehouse Mouse:*  
**Now I'm Ready!**



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# DEAR PARENTS

Each year approximately 329 children under the age of 5 die and 785 children under the age of 5 are injured in house fires in the United States. More simply stated, that's almost 1 child per day! A large number of these fires are started from children playing with matches or lighters.

You as a parent or guardian can help make a difference in these deadly statistics if you keep in mind the following:

1. Kids have a "natural" curiosity about fire.
2. Kids do not feel threatened by fire. After all, we invite fire into our homes everyday; matches and lighters, fireplaces or wood-burning stoves, gas ranges, or candles (birthday, scented, or holiday.)
3. Kids have **NO CONCEPT** of how quickly fire spreads and gets out of control!

**\*\*Your child has recently been through the "Matches and Lighters are Tools Not Toys" Program. Please take a few moments with them to look over this activity book and reinforce it's important message.\*\***

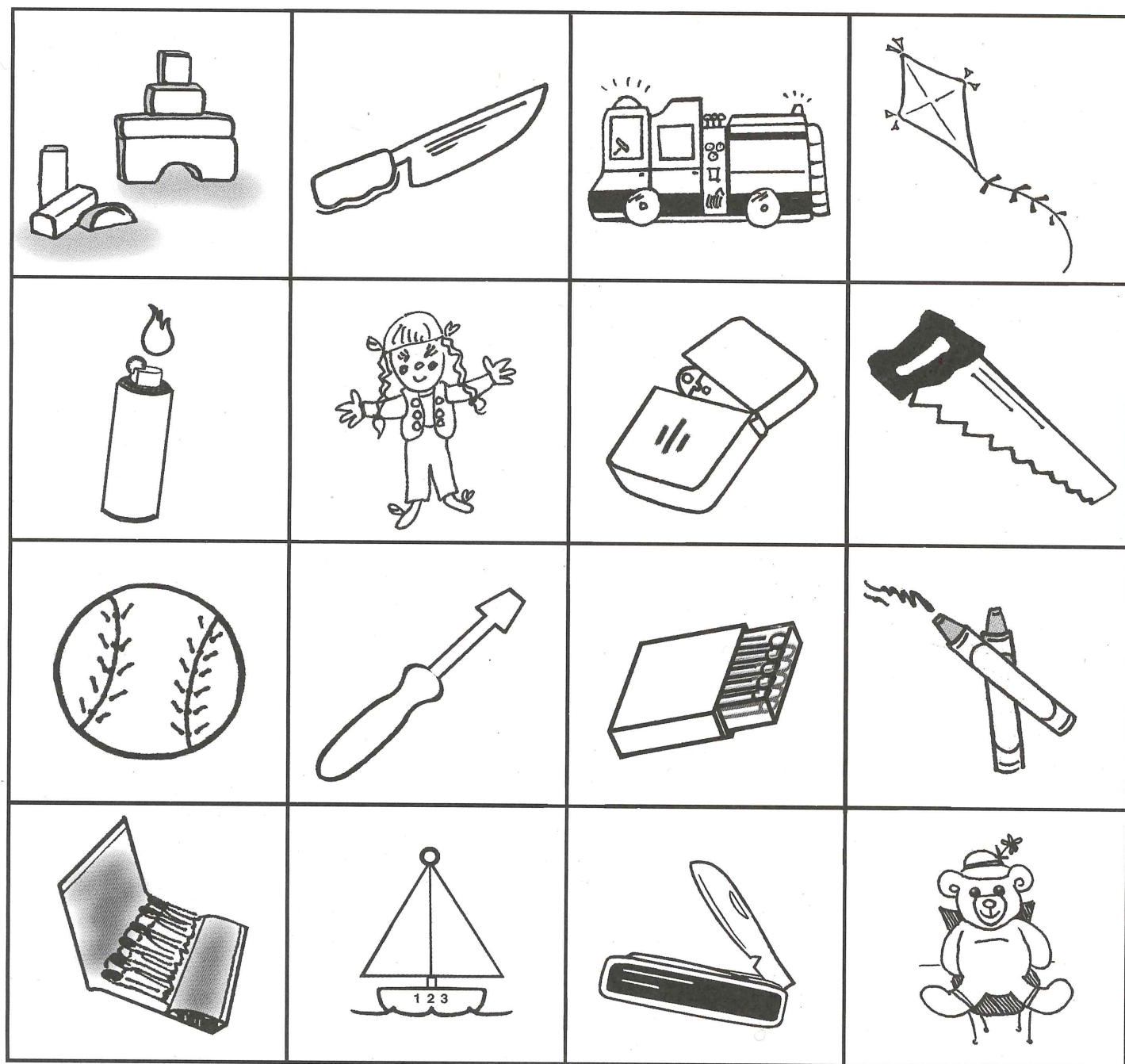


# Now I'm Ready!

**BOOTS** would like you to draw an "X"  
on the grown-up tools!

Then **COLOR** the toys that are  
OK for kids to play with!

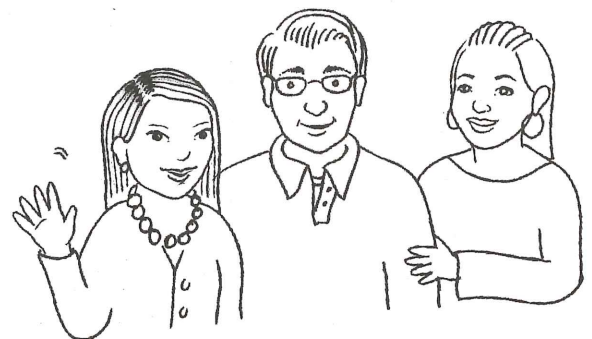
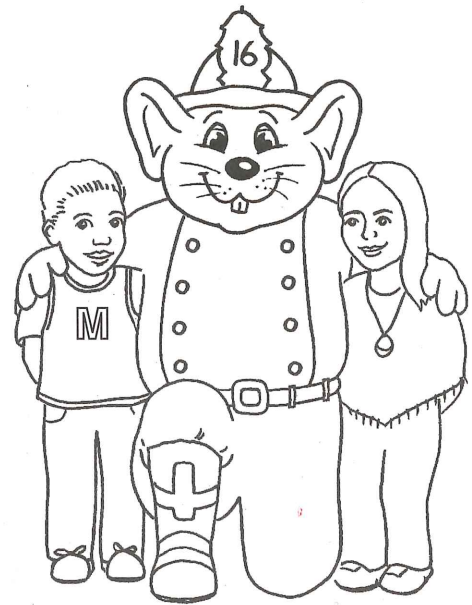
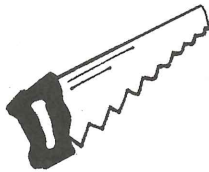
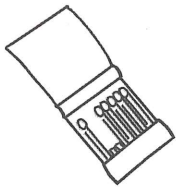
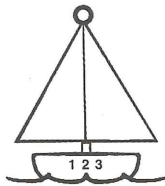
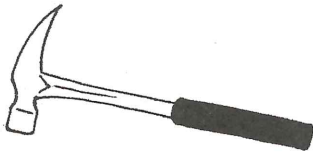
**REMEMBER:** Matches and Lighters are **TOOLS NOT TOYS**!



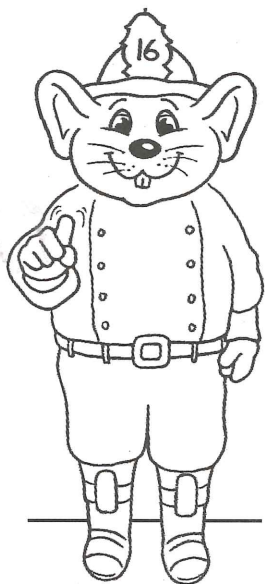
# Now I'm Ready!

1. Draw a line from the grown-up tools to the grown-ups.
2. Draw a line from the toys to **BOOTS** and his friends.

**REMEMBER:** Matches and Lighters are **TOOLS NOT TOYS** !







# Now I'm Ready!

Help **BOOTS** find his way to the toys.

Remember: BE CAREFUL! Don't touch grown-up tools along the way!

Matches and Lighters are **TOOLS** *NOT* TOYS

**START:**

**DON'T TOUCH!**

**DON'T TOUCH!**

**DON'T TOUCH!**

**DON'T TOUCH!**

**DON'T TOUCH!**

**DON'T TOUCH!**

**FINISH:**





# Now I'm Ready!

**COLOR** BY NUMBER

Help **BOOTS** color by number the message below. Then read the message out loud.

1= RED

2=BLUE

3=GREEN

NEVER

1 1 1

PLAY WITH

MATCHES

OR

LIGHTERS

**REMEMBER:** Matches and Lighters are **TOOLS NOT TOYS**





# Now I'm Ready!

Now that you have learned...

Matches and Lighters are **TOOLS NOT TOYS**

**COLOR** *BOOTS* standing next  
to his favorite firetruck!

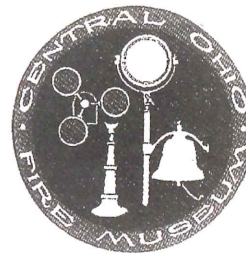


# **EVERYDAY FIRE SAFETY TIPS**

- 1. Develop and practice your home escape plan.**
- 2. Install smoke detectors on every level of your home.**
- 3. Test your smoke detectors monthly and change your batteries once a year or as needed.**
- 4. Keep all matches and lighters out of the reach of children.**
- 5. Teach children not to play with matches or lighters**
- 6. Teach children if they find matches or lighters not to touch them but to tell an adult.**



*Life is good. Make it great.*



***If you should learn that your child is playing or experimenting with matches or lighters please feel free to contact the Columbus Division of Fire, Juvenile Firesetter program at 645-7377***