

# TEACHING 12-18 YEAR OLDS ABOUT FIRE SAFETY

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INJURY PREVENTION TRAINING

Injury Prevention Daily Quick Drills - Easy Access to Training Topics

## Do you know how to effectively teach fire safety 12-18 year olds?

Firefighters have opportunities to educate pre-teens and teens about fire safety. Being able to identify basic learning characteristics and having knowledge of how 12-18 year olds learn is critical.

### References:

NC FLSE Education I, Characteristics of the Audience

NFPA 1035 Standard for Professional Qualifications for Public Fire and Life Safety Educator

1. The learning characteristics of 12-18 year olds:
  - a) Known as risk takers who live for the present without safety precautions.
  - b) Searching for independence.
  - c) Role oriented.
  - d) Big period of change.
  - e) Developing problem solving ability.
  - f) Concerned with themselves and their peer group.
  - g) Acceptance by members of opposite sex may become important or take priority.
2. Instructional methods to use when working with 12-18 year olds:
  - a) Firefighters role should be that of advisor/coach.
  - b) They are becoming aware of their own special abilities and talents. This is a good time for introducing them to leadership roles.
  - c) They like to be involved with decisions.
  - d) Experience based discussion.
  - e) First person stories.
3. Examples of appropriate activities for 12-18 year olds:
  - a) Lecture involving students.
  - b) Problem solving questions - they are mastering abstract thinking and imagine new ways of doing things.
  - c) Games.
  - d) Simulation.
  - e) Use a decision matrix.