

# Is my home ready for fire season?

## Overview

The wildland urban interface, or WUI, is the place where forests meet residential development. Homes within the WUI can be vulnerable to damage from wildfire due to the condition of surrounding vegetation, the accumulation of flammable material around the home, and home construction. By modifying some or all of these factors, homeowners can reduce the potential impacts from wildfire on their home and property.

## Objective

The activity introduces the concept of flammability and asks students to investigate the presence and connectivity of flammable materials around their homes. The activity is designed for homes in the WUI.



## Directions

1. Introduce the word “flammable” and ask students for examples of flammable items. If time permits, students can assemble items from outdoors and classify them as flammable or non-flammable.
2. Optional: Go through “Home Ignition Basics” presentation. Discussion tips are provided in the notes on each slide.
3. Students take copies of “Is my home ready for fire season” worksheet home.
4. Students walk around their house and complete worksheet (with parent help if needed).
5. Students return completed worksheets to school and use the grading chart below to assign grades.
6. Optional: Students complete “Insurance Certificate” and bring home to share with their parents.
7. Additional educational resources are available at [www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org)

## Fire Safety Grading Chart

How many checks in the NO column?	Grade
0-1	A
2-4	B
4-6	C
6-8	D
8-10	F



### Materials

- “Is my home ready for fire season?” worksheet
- Pencil
- Kidco Insurance certificate

### Duration

- 30-minute intro lesson
- 30-minute homework
- 30-minute follow-up

## Completed Certificate Example





# Is my home ready for fire season?

## WORKSHEET



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Use the following checklist to see if your home is protected from wildfire. Walk around your house and answer each question by putting a check mark in the “Yes,” “No,” or “Can’t tell” columns.

		Yes	No	Can't tell
<b>About the house:</b>				
1	Is the roof covered with metal or asphalt shingles (not wood shake)?			
2	Are firewood and other wood stored away from the house, not touching the walls or deck?			
3	Are weeds cleared away from the sides of the house?			
4	Are tree limbs cleared away from the roof and chimney?			
5	Are dead leaves and needles cleared from the roof and rain gutters?			
<b>Around the house (within 50 feet):</b>				
6	Are trees and shrubs at least 15 feet apart?			
7	Are small trees and shrubs cleared from underneath big trees?			
8	Is the lawn green throughout the summer?			
<b>About the location:</b>				
9	Is the house on a flat place, set back from the top of a slope?			
10	Is the road wide enough for a car going out to pass a fire engine coming in?			
<b>How many checks are in each column?</b>				

- If you answered yes to all 10 questions, congratulations, you are prepared for fire season!
- If you answered no to any questions, your family should discuss ideas for making each change.
- More information on living with fire is available at [www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org).

# CERTIFICATE of INSPECTION

THIS ACKNOWLEDGES THAT

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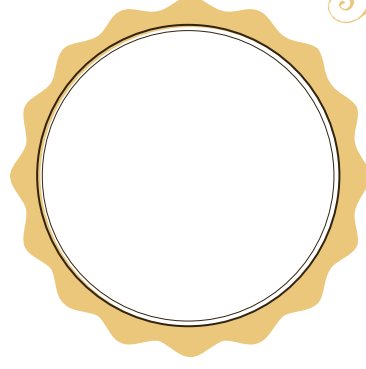
OF THE KIDCO FIRE INSURANCE INSPECTION TEAM

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HAS GRADED YOUR HOME FIRE PREPAREDNESS

Signed:

Date:



If you would like to improve your grade and get your home ready for fire season, please check out [firewise.org](http://firewise.org) or contact your local fire station.