



# A Child's Guide to Electrical Safety

## Teacher's Guide

### NOTE TO TEACHER

This discussion guide contains questions for each page in the booklet, and suggested activities that can be done in class or as homework. You can do as much as you wish in one lesson and then continue the rest in other lessons.

### COVER PAGE

#### Discussion Points

- What is the blue cat doing?
- What does electrical safety mean?
- What do you think you will learn from this activity book?

### PAGE TWO

#### Discussion Points

- Which things in this picture work on electricity?
- What would your life be like without electricity?

Activity: Have students make lists of things in their homes that run on electricity.

### PAGE THREE

#### Discussion Points

- Find the message.
- What is the striped cat holding?

### PAGE FOUR

#### Discussion Points

- Who is at the switch in the home?
- What travels through wires?
- Where does electric energy come from?
- When do you use a switch in your home?
- Why do we need electric energy in our homes?

### PAGE FIVE

#### Discussion Points

- Use the code to find out what the sign on the substation fence says.
- Why should you stay away from substations and utility towers?

Activity: Have students draw signs to warn people to stay away from substations and utility towers.

### PAGE SIX

#### Discussion Points

- Who do you think the striped cat is calling on the telephone?
- Who should you call if you see a fallen power line? (*Stress utility company and/or police.*)

- Why should you stay away from fallen power lines?

## **PAGE SEVEN**

### Discussion Points

- Match the sentences to the pictures.
- Explain why it is dangerous to do each of the things mentioned on this page.

## **PAGES EIGHT & NINE**

### Discussion Points

- Have students get the striped cat safely through the maze without getting shocked.
- Have students describe what they see in each of the four “shock” pictures. Ask students what other “shock” pictures they could add.

## **PAGE TEN**

### Discussion Points

- Find the secret message. What does it mean?
- What does the picture in the circle show?
- Why is this a dangerous situation?

Activity: Have the students create some posters showing ways it would be dangerous to mix water and electricity.

## **PAGE ELEVEN**

### Discussion Points

- What is an electrical fire?
- Why don't you pour water on an electrical fire?
- What should you use to put out an electrical fire?
- What does “don't overload electrical outlets!” mean?
- What can happen if an outlet is overloaded?

Activity: Have students check the outlets in their homes. If they find any that are overloaded, they should report them to their parents.

## **PAGE TWELVE**

### Discussion Points

- Find the missing word in the message on this page.
- Why is it a good idea to unplug appliances before you work on them? (*Emphasize that only qualified adults should fix appliances.*)

## **PAGE THIRTEEN**

### Discussion Points

- Why is the blue cat trying to stop the striped cat from climbing the tree?
- What are the dangers of climbing the tree?

## **PAGE FOURTEEN**

### Discussion Points

- Explain the reason why the striped cat should think “shock!” in the two dangerous situations.
- What is wrong with the cord in the top left picture?
- Why is it dangerous to touch a light switch when you are wet or standing in water?

Activity: The bottom left picture shows a safe place to fly a kite. Ask students to name safe and unsafe places for kite flying in their community.

## **PAGE FIFTEEN**

### Discussion Points

- Find the missing word in the message on this page.
- What is wrong with the wire?
- Why is a frayed wire dangerous?
- What is the best thing to do in this situation? (*Stress the need to have an adult unplug the wire and have the cord repaired.*)

## **PAGE SIXTEEN**

### Discussion Points

- Why is each thing on this page dangerous?
- With a partner or in a group, explain what should be done to make each scene safer. (*Fly kites in an open field, away from power lines. Leave the house carefully. Dry off and wipe up puddle before turning on the light. Play somewhere else, away from the natural gas appliances. Have an adult unplug the extra cords.*)

## **GLOSSARY**

APPLIANCE	Household machine powered by electric current. A refrigerator is a household <i>appliance</i> .
DANGER	Something that might hurt you. Stay away from things with signs that say <i>danger</i> .
ELECTRICITY	One of the basic forms of energy. It can also give light and heat. <i>Electricity</i> makes televisions and toasters work.
ENERGY	The ability to do work. <i>Energy</i> makes machines run.
EXTINGUISHER	Container filled with chemicals which, when sprayed upon fire, put it out. Your school has a <i>fire extinguisher</i> in the hall.
FRAYED	When the insulation on a wire is worn off or broken. <i>Frayed</i> wires can cause fires.
OUTLET	A place to plug in appliances. Never put anything but a plug into an <i>outlet</i> .
OVERLOAD	To give something too big a load. It is dangerous to <i>overload</i> an outlet with too many appliances.
POWER LINES	Wires used to send out electric energy for public use. Never fly a kite near <i>power lines</i> .
POWER PLANT	A place where electricity is generated. The <i>power plant</i> sends power to the substations.
SUBSTATION	A smaller plant that receives energy from the power plant and then sends it to our homes. We were told not to play near the <i>substation</i> because it could be dangerous.
SWITCH	A device for making or breaking an electric circuit. When you are not using a light in a room, turn the <i>switch</i> off.
UTILITY POLE	A pole use to hold up power lines and other wires. Don't ever climb a <i>utility pole</i> .