

Fire Setting Module (10)

Question to Consider for this Module: What are the issues and risks related to the child's/youth's fire setting behaviors? **Please rate the most recent fire setting incident, unless otherwise noted.**

SERIOUSNESS - This item rates the severity of the fires being set.	
<p>Questions to Consider</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Has the fire setting caused damage to property or injury to people? → Where has the fire setting occurred? 	<p>Ratings & Definitions</p> <p>0 Child has engaged in fire setting that resulted in only minor damage (e.g. camp fire in the back yard which scorched some lawn).</p> <p>1 Child has engaged in fire setting that resulted only in some property damage that required repair.</p> <p>2 Child has engaged in fire setting that caused significant damage to property (e.g. burned down house).</p> <p>3 Child has engaged in fire setting that injured self or others.</p>
HISTORY - This item rates the frequency with which the child has engaged in fire setting. Please rate using time frames provided in the definitions.	
<p>Questions to Consider</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → How often has the child engaged in fire setting? → Has the child had time periods in which s/he did not set fires? 	<p>Ratings & Definitions</p> <p>0 Only one known occurrence of fire setting behavior.</p> <p>1 Child has engaged in multiple acts of fire setting in the past year.</p> <p>2 Child has engaged in multiple acts of fire setting for more than one year but has had periods of at least 6 months where s/he did not engage in fire setting behavior.</p> <p>3 Child has engaged in multiple acts of fire setting for more than one year without any period of at least 3 months where s/he did not engage in fire setting behavior.</p>
ARRESTS - This item rates the child's history of arrests in the juvenile justice sector.	
<p>Questions to Consider</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Has the child been arrested? If so, how often? When? 	<p>Ratings & Definitions</p> <p>0 Child has no known arrests in past.</p> <p>1 Child has history of delinquency, but no arrests past 30 days.</p> <p>2 Child has 1 to 2 arrests in last 30 days.</p> <p>3 Child has more than 2 arrests in last 30 days.</p>
PLANNING - This item rates the premeditation level of the fire setting.	
<p>Questions to Consider</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Is the child's fire setting typically planned or impulsive? 	<p>Ratings & Definitions</p> <p>0 No evidence of any planning. Fire setting behavior appears opportunistic or impulsive.</p> <p>1 Evidence suggests that child places him/herself into situations where the likelihood of fire setting behavior is enhanced.</p> <p>2 Evidence of some planning of fire setting behavior.</p> <p>3 Considerable evidence of significant planning of fire setting behavior. Behavior is clearly premeditated.</p>

USE OF ACCELERANTS - This item rates the child based on the accelerants used in the fire setting.

Questions to Consider

- Does the child use gasoline, alcohol, etc. to increase the fire's intensity?
- Does the child use paper, sticks or other physical items to increase the size of the fire?

Ratings & Definitions

- 0** No evidence of any use of accelerants (e.g., gasoline). Fire setting involved only starters such as matches or a lighter.
- 1** Evidence suggests that the fire setting involved some use of mild accelerants (e.g. sticks, paper) but no use of liquid accelerants.
- 2** Evidence that fire setting involved the use of a limited amount of liquid accelerants but that some care was taken to limit the size of the fire.
- 3** Considerable evidence of significant use of accelerants in an effort to secure a very large and dangerous fire.

INTENTION TO HARM - This item rates the child's intention to harm others through fire setting.

Questions to Consider

- Does the child consider safety when setting the fires?
- Is there an intention to scare, injure or kill others with the fire?

Ratings & Definitions

- 0** Child did not intend to harm others with fire. S/he took efforts to maintain some safety.
- 1** Child did not intend to harm others but took no efforts to maintain safety.
- 2** Child intended to seek revenge or scare others but did not intend physical harm, only intimidation.
- 3** Child intended to injure or kill others.

COMMUNITY SAFETY - This item rates the risk to the community due to the fire setting. Please rate highest level in the past 30 days.

Questions to Consider

- Does the fire setting pose a significant safety risk to the community at large?

Ratings & Definitions

- 0** Child presents no risk to the community. S/he could be unsupervised in the community.
- 1** Child engages in fire setting behavior that represents a risk to community property.
- 2** Child engages in fire setting behavior that places community residents in some danger of physical harm. This danger may be an indirect effect of the child's behavior.
- 3** Child engages in fire setting behavior that intentionally places community members in danger of significant physical harm. Child attempts to use fires to hurt others.

RESPONSE TO ACCUSATION - This item rates the response and remorse of the child when accused of setting a fire. Please rate highest level in the past 30 days.

Questions to Consider

- Is the child sorry for setting fires?
- Does the child admit to setting fires?

Ratings & Definitions

- 0** Child admits to behavior and expresses remorse and desire to not repeat.
- 1** Child partially admits to behaviors and expresses some remorse.
- 2** Child admits to behavior but does not express remorse.
- 3** Child neither admits to behavior nor expresses remorse. Child is in complete denial.

REMORSE -This item is used to rate the level of remorse and responsibility felt by the child. Please rate highest level in the past 30 days.

Questions to Consider

- Does the child express remorse for any harm caused by fire setting or accept responsibility?

Ratings & Definitions

- 0** Child accepts responsibility for behavior and is truly sorry for any damage/risk caused. Child is able to apologize directly to effected people.
- 1** Child accepts responsibility for behavior and appears to be sorry for any damage/risk caused. However, child is unable or unwilling to apologize to effected people.
- 2** Child accepts some responsibility for behavior but also blames others. May experience sorrow at being caught or receiving consequences. May express sorrow/remorse but only in an attempt to reduce consequences.
- 3** Child accepts no responsibility and does not appear to experience any remorse.

LIKELIHOOD OF FUTURE FIRE SETTING - This item rates the chance that the child will continue to set fires in the future. Please rate highest level in the past 30 days.

Questions to Consider

- Does the child have control over fire setting behaviors?
- How much monitoring is required to ensure that no fires are set?

Ratings & Definitions

- 0** Child is unlikely to set fires in the future. Child able and willing to exert self-control over fire setting.
- 1** Child presents mild to moderate risk of fire setting in the future. Should be monitored but does not require ongoing treatment/intervention.
- 2** Child remains at risk of fire setting if left unsupervised. Child struggles with self-control.
- 3** Child presents a real and present danger of fire setting in the immediate future. Child unable or unwilling to exert self-control over fire setting behavior.