

Activity 3 - Organised firework displays/ firework rules

- The Fire Brigade spend a lot of money on TV campaigns and advertising to try to stop injuries occurring. Every year young people are allowed to get hold of fireworks, and put themselves and others at great risk. Look at some of the statistics for injuries from fireworks (on reverse). Discuss.
- Some Category 3 (see 'Category' descriptions overleaf) fireworks which are legal for anyone over 18 to buy can be very dangerous, particularly if the regulations are not adhered to (e.g. standing at least 25 metres away). Discuss implications and possible hazards of using these at a private function (Possibly refer to newspaper articles on reverse of Activity 1).
- In groups discuss the following issues:
 - Unsupervised activities and not adhering to the regulations on fireworks
 - Peer pressure - accepting dares, joining in with anti-social behaviour
 - Consequences to neighbours, especially old people, children and pets, when fireworks are set off on unplanned occasions
- **Activity** - write a letter of complaint to local paper from an angry resident.
- **Or** - In an attempt to encourage people to attend local organised displays instead of making their own, get children to research all local events.
- **Or** - Prepare a pack for children/young people highlighting the dangers of playing with fireworks, which includes facts, rules and activities.
- **Or** - Prepare a special feature for a 'teen magazine' which is both cool and informative. Get the messages across warning of the dangers of fireworks and highlighting the firework rules in a way that will make young people pay attention.
- **Or** - Prepare an advertising campaign aimed at adults to warn of the dangers of category 3 fireworks and the importance of reading and adhering to instructions on individual fireworks.
- **Or** - Write an essay using persuasive language to convince the reader of the advantage of organised firework displays over private displays.

Resources

- Firework statistics/category descriptions (reverse)
- Firework rules poster



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Firework injuries statistics in UK for 2003

There were **1136** human injuries altogether

515 injuries happened in the back garden

140 injuries were caused by sparklers

554 children were injured

313 injuries were to the eye

295 injuries were from 'hooligan' behaviour

4,825 animals were treated with injuries

16 animals died

Categories of fireworks

Category	Description	Extra information
Category 1	Indoor fireworks	For use in extremely restricted areas
Category 2	Garden fireworks	For use in limited areas, e.g gardens Fuse time = 3 to 13 seconds Minimum viewing distance of 5 metres
Category 3	Display fireworks	For use in open areas, e.g playing fields Fuse time = 5 to 15 seconds Minimum viewing distance of 25 metres
Category 4	Display fireworks	For use by professionals only Not for sale to the general public



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