

FIRE

Ideas for fire

Candles – melted crayon drawings, extinguish candles with a jar, fire-proof balloons (add water to a balloon and hold over a candle. Compare that to a balloon filled with air).

Cooking – marshmallows, damper bread, bananas and chocolate in tinfoil

Bonfires

Smoke volcanoes – place two tubes at right angles, build up sand like a volcano, remove pipes carefully, insert fuel into middle, light fire from side tube.

Different methods to construct a fire

Safety considerations

Check with Fire and Emergency NZ and your Council. You may need a permit, or fires may be prohibited in your area.

Check the latest weather and wind speed and direction.

Make sure smoke from the fire will not be a nuisance to your neighbours or affect visibility for road or air traffic.

Ensure fire is more than three metres away from buildings, hedges, shelter belts or anything that can burn. 'Damp down' a three metre area under and around the fire to prevent spreading.

Have a way to put out your fire when you are finished, if it gets out-of-control, or if any embers or burning material escapes. This could include a hose, water sprayer, a shovel and dirt or a mechanical digger. These must be within easy reach.

Don't light your fire if you have any doubts that it is safe.

Ensure someone stays with the fire until it's put out. Consider a 'no go zone' to keep children safe.

Tie back long hair, wear shoes.

Learning

Sate natural curiosity about fire

Ignite imaginations

Wellbeing – mana atua: keeping themselves and others safe from harm

Risk-taking and risk analysis

Communication

Empowerment – whakamana

Cause and effect

Extension ideas

Dramatic play around firefighters or dragons

Mahuika and Rūaumoko

Fire and Emergency visit to Centre

Volcanoes, comets and space

Make pirate treasure maps with burned edges

Matariki and other cultural traditions around fire

Hāngī, umu and lovo

