



**Tennessee State
Fire Marshal's Office**

Novelty Lighters Are a **FIRE HAZARD** to Children



Is this a toy or a lighter?
What do you think?
What would a child think?

**Do your part in making
Tennessee fire safe!**

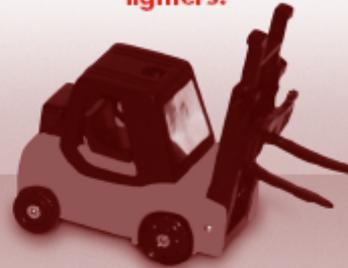
**Children will play with
lighters, especially if they
look like toys.**

All of the toys shown in this brochure are lighters in disguise. They don't operate like most child resistant lighters; most have a button or handle that encourages activation. The flame port is difficult to locate before lighting, making the risk of burning skin or hair greater. This combination will result in disastrous consequences for children and parents that don't know they are lighters.



Once left on a counter, in a drawer or a car, it can be picked up in the blink of an eye. The urge to play with them is nearly impossible for a child to resist. It's only a matter of time before they accidentally light it. Many children don't understand and can't comprehend the damage and effects of fire.

**In Tennessee over the past
5 years, a total of 120 fires
have been started by
children playing with
lighters.**



These fires have resulted in 11 injuries, 3 firefighter injuries and over \$1.8 million in property damage. It is tragic that all of these fires were preventable. Unfortunately, the availability of novelty lighters at most stores and convenience markets will cause this statistic to increase.

What can you do?

You can make a difference! **We encourage you to remove novelty lighters from your store.** If you choose not to, place them out of sight.

Don't place them low or near candy and other items that attract a child's attention. Some adults buy them for their children not knowing they are lighters. Make sure employees know to warn parents of the risk to their children.

Fire Prevention Education Matters!

Tennessee consistently ranks among the five worst states for fire deaths. Nearly all accidental fires are preventable and escapable...if you know what to do! The best way to help is through education.

Contact your local fire department and ask them to teach you and your children how to make your home fire safe through fire hazard identification, proper smoke alarm installation and maintenance, and fire escape planning.



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