

If you know a child that
needs **HELP**

CAL FIRE/Riverside County Fire Department offers a Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program for our community. This program was developed to provide an opportunity for families to work with the fire department and address any concerns with their children and fire. Our program starts with a child and parent interview to assess risk level and to develop a successful educational component. The child and/or parent will be given educational material to take home and complete. Follow up appointments will be scheduled to evaluate their success and to determine if future contact will be necessary.

CAL FIRE / Riverside County Fire
Fire Prevention Bureau
(951) 238-3633
www.rvcfire.org

All firesetting behavior by a child or adolescent should be taken seriously.

If you think your child has set a fire
on purpose

No matter how big or small
seek help immediately.

If you have an active fire
GET OUT & STAY OUT

CALL 9-1-1

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JUVENILE FIRESETTER PROGRAM



JUVENILE ARSON

DESTROYS - DEVASTATES - KILLS

About **FIRE** & fire safety

- Fire is dangerous and can be deadly.
- Even small fires spread quickly.
- Never leave the stove or a burning candle unattended.
- Install and maintain smoke alarms for early warning.
- Plan and practice a home fire escape drill.
- Inspect your home often for fire hazards.

A **NOTE** To parents & caregivers

- Keep matches and lighters out of reach, in high, ideally locked cabinets.
- Teach your children to tell you when they find matches and lighters.
- Teach older children proper techniques in using fire and fire tools– how to strike a match safely or light a candle with supervision.
- Praise your child for practicing responsible behavior and showing respect for fire.

Children who start fires may be children in crisis, with firesetting being used as a cry for help from stressful life experiences or abuse.



85% of children who start fires will continue to play with fire if left untreated.

Is juvenile **ARSON** A problem?

- 55% of all arson arrests in the U.S. are children under 18 years.
- Nearly half are 15 years and younger.
- The crime of arson has the highest rate of juvenile involvement.

Is child fire play and **FIRE** setting a problem?

Fires set by young children in the U.S. annually result in:*

- 67,500 fires
- 230 deaths
- 1,800 injuries
- \$235 million in property damages

*Source: National Fire Protection Association