

spotlight on

Window Safety

Windows play a critical role in home safety. With fires and falls among the leading causes of injury and death in young children, it is important to educate yourself and your loved ones on fire evacuation plans and general window safety.

Please consider these tips, provided by the National Safety Council, to help keep you and your family safe around windows:

- **Keep furniture away from windows.** Children may use furniture or other large objects as a climbing aid.
- **Keep windows shut and locked when children are around.** When opening windows for ventilation, open windows that children cannot reach.
- **Do not rely on insect screens to prevent a fall.** Insect screens provide ventilation only and are not designed to prevent a child's fall from a window.
- There's no substitute for adult supervision. Unattended children run the greatest risk of falls and injuries, and when it comes to window safety.

While windows can pose a fall risk, they can also help save a life in the event of a fire:

- Windows provide a secondary means of escape from a burning home. Determine your family's emergency escape plan and practice it regularly and be sure to identify two ways out of every room.
- Remember that children may have to rely on a window to escape in a fire. Be sure to help them learn how to safely use a window under these circumstances.