



Hazard House Fire Prevention Program

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INTRODUCTION

According to the American Burn Association, it is estimated that 3500 deaths occur from residential fires. Of those 3500, 75% of these deaths occur at the scene of the incident or during initial transport. Statistics taken from Burn Centers from 1995 to 2005 show that 43% of all fires occur in the home and 46% of burns are caused by fire or flame.



CONCLUSION

The Hazard House presentation was an entertaining and interactive program that allowed children to gain knowledge of home fire prevention and safety. In doing this program, children 's homes who were not equipped with smoke detectors were identified; the parents were later notified by school personnel. This presentation allowed for the nursing students to get a different perspective of pediatric nursing and assist children in the community.

For future presentations, the pre and post tests need to be re-evaluated. Time management and communication are key factors in a successful presentation; each student needs to be responsible for grading their own pre and post tests.

SPECIFIC AIM

The purpose of the Hazard House Presentation was to see how a house can be organized to optimally reduce the risks of fire, how to detect the fire, ways of controlling the fire, and how to escape from a fire threat situation. The University of Louisville (UofL) nursing students also learned how to organize, analyze, and input burn prevention data from various age groups of school -age children.



RESULTS

For the kindergarten test (n=144), the average score at baseline was 80% (SD=20.7%), and for the grade 1 and 2 test (n=332) the average score at baseline was 92% (SD=24.4%). Scores on the post test for the kindergarten test were 79% (SD=24.4%), and for the grade 1 and 2 test were 95% (SD=22.1%). For the kindergarteners, there was no difference in pre and post intervention scores (p=0.55) while for those taking the grade 1 and 2 test there was a significant difference (p= 0.015).

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Senior registered nursing students in their pediatric clinical experience at the UofL School of Nursing administered pre and post test for the primary school children and evaluated changes in home fire safety knowledge after presenting the Hazard House, a standardized home fire safety curriculum. This project was the UofL internal review board exempt and Jefferson County Public Schools approved.



PRACTICE IMPLICATIONS

The changes in test scores for students in grades 1 and 2 showed increased understanding of home fire safety knowledge. For those younger kindergarten students, test items need to be reviewed and revised. Nursing students gained experience with implementing and testing a home fire safety program with elementary school students.



Jenkins, A., Presley, L., Wissemeier, S., & Lehna, C. (2010). Nursing students team up with Louisville firefighters. *KY Nurse*, 58(2), 11.