

Should You Call 911?

Name _____ Date _____

Directions: Read each scenario and decide if you can handle the situation by yourself. If you decide you need to call 911, specify if you would need help from the police, the fire department, or the paramedics. For each scenario, assume there are no responsible adults nearby.

Scenario 1: You are at your best friend's house. Your friend starts playing with matches. Realizing this is a bad idea, you ask your friend to stop. However, your friend replies "You worry too much!" and continues playing with matches. You try to talk your friend out of it again, but one of the matches falls out of his hand. Now the couch is on fire, and the fire is growing quickly. Can you handle this by yourself, or should you call 911?

Scenario 2: You are playing video games when you hear a loud noise outside. You go to the window and you realize a car has hit a light post. The car is badly damaged, but you don't see anybody getting out of the car. Can you handle this by yourself, or should you call 911?

Scenario 3: You are playing soccer with your friends. One of your friends falls while trying to block the ball. You go over to see if your friend is OK. Your friend stands and says she's fine, but her knee is bleeding from a scrape. Can you handle this by yourself, or should you call 911?

Scenario 4: You are at home, doing your math homework. Unfortunately, you forgot how to do the math problems. Can you handle this by yourself, or should you call 911?

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Scenario 5: You are playing outside with your friends when an unfamiliar car pulls into your neighbor's driveway. You see a person get out of the car and break your neighbor's window. The person climbs into your neighbor's house, and you suspect a robbery is taking place. Can you handle this by yourself, or should you call 911?

Scenario 6: You are at home with a younger boy. Because you are responsible, you make sure that the boy stays safe at all times. Despite your best efforts, when you come back from a quick bathroom visit, you find the boy lying on the kitchen floor. An open bottle of bug poison is next to him. You suspect that the younger boy drank the poison. Can you handle this by yourself, or should you call 911?

Scenario 7: You are at home by yourself. You just finished your homework and decide to watch a little TV. However, halfway through your show, you start to get a stomachache. You remember that you might have eaten a few too many cookies, but your stomach is still hurting. Can you handle this by yourself, or should you call 911?

Scenario 8: You are at your house with your friend. In the middle of your favorite movie, you and your friend hear a loud commotion outside. When you go to the window to look, you see that the neighbor's house is on fire. Your neighbors have safely exited the building, but you wonder if someone is still inside. Your friend says "Let's go run into that building and get someone out! We'll be heroes!" You stop your friend, saying "I have a better idea. Let's..." Is there another way you can handle this situation by yourself, or should you and your friend call 911?