

Florida.

save lives and property.

quickly or as far.

people or their homes.

Too risky

Natural burning

Issue 38, 2020

Founded by Betty Debnam

Mini Fact:

Firefighters

may carry about 200 feet of hose on their

backs.

Firefighters

fire in Idaho

Staying safe

where there is no fuel left.

know they are in danger.

Fire shelter

within 30 seconds.

Firefighters are taught to "keep one foot in the black and one in the green." The black area is the safest because it

has already burned. If things go wrong,

firefighters can jump into the black area

Even if the flames don't reach the

firefighters, the smoke can. The smoke is

When people inhale this gas, it can cloud

Firefighters carry small fire shelters on

If firefighters can't escape a fire, they

shelters out and crawl inside. They lie low

their hips. They can get these shelters out

throw these aluminum-and-fiberglass

to the ground with the shelter around

them, waiting for the fire to pass over.

These shelters have saved hundreds of

full of a deadly gas, carbon monoxide.

their thinking, so they might not even

battle the **Indian Butte**



Next Week: Animal shelters



In mid-August, the National Interagency

Fire Center reported that 38 large wildfires

This week, The Mini Page learns more

about wildfires and how people battle them to

Fire is a part of the natural balance in

when the next fire comes, it doesn't spread as

Fires are necessary to make certain seeds

In some areas of the wilderness, firefighters

let wildfires burn. They keep a close watch to

be sure the fire won't become dangerous to

Sometimes weather conditions are so

dry or windy that fires would be dangerous

About 120 years ago, people started

putting out forest fires. As a result, underbrush

grew between the trees, creating more fuel for

People began building homes and other

structures closer and closer to forested areas.

wildfires no matter where they begin.

Upsetting the balance

anywhere. In these times, firefighters put out

They clear out the underbrush. That way,

sprout. Without fires, many native plants

won't grow in forests and grasslands.

many ecosystems. Fires help keep forests clean.

were burning in 15 states, from Alaska to

They planted crops in areas that might normally have acted as natural firebreaks, or

Drought, or dry, conditions, higher temperatures and high winds have also increased the risk of wildfires.

places where the fire runs out of fuel.

Fighting fires directly

Fires need heat, fuel and oxygen to burn. If



Firefighters are aided by airplanes dropping flame retardant and by helicopters dropping

firefighters can take away one of these, the fire will die.

When firefighters go to a small wildfire, they attack it directly by pouring water right on the flames. This is the safer way to fight a wildfire.

Fighting fires indirectly

In bigger fires, firefighters might attack the fire indirectly. They use bulldozers, shovels, rakes or chainsaws to clear brush from the area in front of the fire, creating a firebreak.

Sometimes, firefighters actually light a second fire between the wildfire and themselves. This burns up fuel before the wildfire can reach the area, but it can be dangerous. The expression "fighting fire with fire" comes from this practice.



Resources

On the Web:

firefighters' lives.

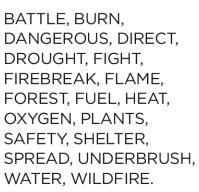
bit.ly/MPwildfires

At the library:

 "Extreme Wildfire: Smoke Jumpers, High-Tech Gear, Survival Tactics and the Extraordinary Science of Fire" by Mark

Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of wildfires are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:



WDYTEFASADZEK ISUOREGNAD H F L Z G D L R E T L E H S B ODHHSURBRED DVEZUGJETA NFCAELTTAB L U S T ALPDFORESTRA Ν

Cook's Corner **Spicy Hot Peanut Dip**

You'll need:

- 1/2 cup organic peanut butter (no sugar)
- 1/2 cup very hot water
- 2 tablespoons light soy sauce • 1 tablespoon cider vinegar
- 3 small garlic cloves
- 2 to 3 tablespoons fresh cilantro, finely chopped
- 1 1/2 tablespoons sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper (optional)

What to do:

- 1. Place peanut butter in a medium bowl, add hot water and stir constantly until wellblended.
- 2. Add soy sauce and vinegar and stir until mixed well. Add all other ingredients and stir to blend.
- 3. Cover and refrigerate. Serve at room temperature as a dip with fresh vegetables.

Mini Jokes

Fern: What is best when it's out?

Frank: A fire!

Eco Note

Sometimes people report fire tornadoes during wildfire season. In order for fire tornadoes to form, several things are needed: turbulent winds, uneven terrain and extreme heat from fire, which causes the air to rise rapidly, according to meteorologist Ben Gelber. Other ingredients, like gas being released from burning vegetation, serve as fuel for the tornadoes as well. Meteorologists can see the rotation on Doppler radar.

For later:

Look in your newspaper for articles about wildfires burning in the western United States.

Teachers: Follow and interact with The Mini Page on Facebook!



7 Little Words for Kids

Use the letters in the boxes to make a word with the same meaning as the clue. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in the solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.



. instrument with keys (5)	
2. meat cutter (7)	
3. its capital is Tokyo (5)	
1 what you put a lotter in (9)	

- 4. what you put a letter in (8) __

- 5. person posing for an artist (5) 6. fly south for the winter (7) 7. high school student (8)__

OPE **VEL** PAN MIG PIA DEL **BUTC** NA **RATE** MO TEE NO EN **HER** JA GER

Answers: piano, butcher, Japan, envelope, model, migrate, teenager.

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