

ASSEMBLY GUIDE

Introduction

Every year, poor gas work and faulty or old appliances cause approximately 40 accidental deaths and more than 200 non-fatal cases requiring hospitalisation in England and Wales. Over 4,000 people also attend A&E, diagnosed with CO poisoning.

Use the **Get Gas Safe** resources as part of your school's **Safety Week** to ensure that your pupils stay gas safe in their homes.

These resources have been created by **Gas Safe Charity** and supported by **Electrical Safety First** and **RoSPA**.



Learning outcomes

Pupils will be able to:

- Describe the basic nature of household gas
- Understand the risk posed by faulty gas appliances
- Explain how to stay 'gas safe' at home

Resources

- PowerPoint presentation, including one video and online Interactive House
- Parent's leaflet

Age group

Recommended for pupils aged 9 to 11.

Please note: This lesson has been designed for teachers and pupils in the UK. Some of the information included may not be relevant to teachers and pupils from other countries.

Gas Safe key messages

Pupils will learn these key gas safety messages:

1. What to do if gas is smelt.
2. Badly fitted and poorly maintained gas appliances can cause gas leaks, fires, explosions and carbon monoxide poisoning.
3. Carbon monoxide is poisonous, has no smell and is hard to detect.
4. All gas appliances should be safety checked once a year and serviced regularly.
5. What the Gas Safe Register is and how to find a registered engineer.
6. Only a Gas Safe registered engineer is legally allowed to fit, fix or service gas boilers, cookers, fires and other gas appliances.

ASSEMBLY GUIDE

Running the assembly

Time required

15-20 minutes

Open the **PowerPoint presentation**.

Slide 1: Hazards in the home (5 minutes)

Introduce the assembly by explaining that pupils need to know how to stay safe, even when they are in their own homes.

Display the **Interactive House** kitchen scene and ask pupils to put their hands up once they have spotted anything that could potentially become dangerous.

If pupils do not pick up on it themselves, explain that the gas appliances (boiler and cooker) can also become dangerous, even life threatening. It is very important to know how to keep them working safely.

Slide 2: Hazards in the home video (5 minutes)

Show pupils a carbon monoxide alarm and ask if they know what it is. If they do not, ask whether they know anything about carbon monoxide poisoning.

Take a few hands and then play the video.

The video covers:

- What carbon monoxide is, why it is dangerous and the importance of fitting a carbon monoxide alarm
- What the Gas Safe Register is and how to find a registered engineer
- Why gas appliances need to be checked once a year and serviced regularly.

ASSEMBLY GUIDE

Slide 3: Conclusion (5 minutes)

Ask pupils what they have learnt about gas safety.

Explain the key messages:

1. What to do if gas is smelt (open doors and windows, tell an adult, call the gas emergency number)
 2. Carbon monoxide is poisonous, has no smell and is hard to detect.
 3. Badly fitted and poorly maintained gas appliances can cause gas leaks, fires, explosions and carbon monoxide poisoning.
 4. All gas appliances should be safety checked once a year and serviced regularly (this must be done by a Gas Safe registered engineer).
- Give out the parent's leaflet and ask pupils to read and discuss with parents and carers. Encourage them to take a look at their own gas appliances and help their parents/carers stay gas safe by, for example, booking a boiler service or installing a carbon monoxide alarm.
 - Prizes could be awarded for the best photos of pupils staying safe at home and avoiding general hazards, including maintaining gas safety.