



# Olathe Fire Department

## News Release

George Bentley, Fire Chief

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## WOULD YOU LET YOUR CHILD PLAY WITH FIRE?

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(Olathe, Kan.) – This year's [National Arson Awareness Week](#), May 4-10, focuses on the dangers of toylike (novelty) lighters. Many novelty lighters are designed to look like toys and are attractive to both adults and children.

In 2002, the National Fire Protection Association estimated 13,900 child-playing fires were reported in the U.S., causing 210 deaths, 1,250 injuries and \$339 million in direct damage.

Any lighter, especially those that look like toys, are as dangerous as a loaded gun. Make your home safer by keeping all lighters and matches in a locked cabinet and out of reach or out of site of children. Create a safer community by discouraging the sale of novelty lighters in convenience stores, etc.

Don't be confused: lighters are not child-proof, they are merely child-resistant.

Download a free novelty lighter PSA at: [www.theideabank.com/psa/NoveltyLighters.html](http://www.theideabank.com/psa/NoveltyLighters.html).

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# TOY I.Q. QUIZ

**Question:** Which of these would you let your child play with?



**Answer:** NONE, all are novelty lighters.

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