

Fire safety stories



Learn Not to Burn®

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Stay away from hot water





Sindi is hungry.

Her mum is boiling water to make soup for supper.

Sindi can't wait to taste it...



Mum teaches Sindi how to stay safe in the kitchen.
“Be careful!” she says, “Hot water can burn you.
Stay **ONE METRE** away from the hot stove.”



The phone rings. Dring! Dring!
Sindi plays safely outside the one metre safety zone
while her mum talks on the phone.



Mum gets off the phone and says,
“Good girl Sindi!
Well done for staying away from the stove!”

Questions to talk about

1. **What is Sindi's mum making on the stove?**

Hot soup.

2. **What does Sindi's mum tell Sindi to keep her safe?**

Stay one metre away from the stove.

3. **Why must Sindi stay away from the stove?**

Hot water is dangerous. It can burn you.

3. **What does Sindi do when her mum is on the phone?**

She stays away from the stove.

4. **What must you do to stay safe from hot things?**

I will stay at least ONE METRE away from the stove and other hot things that can burn.

Matches and lighters can burn you

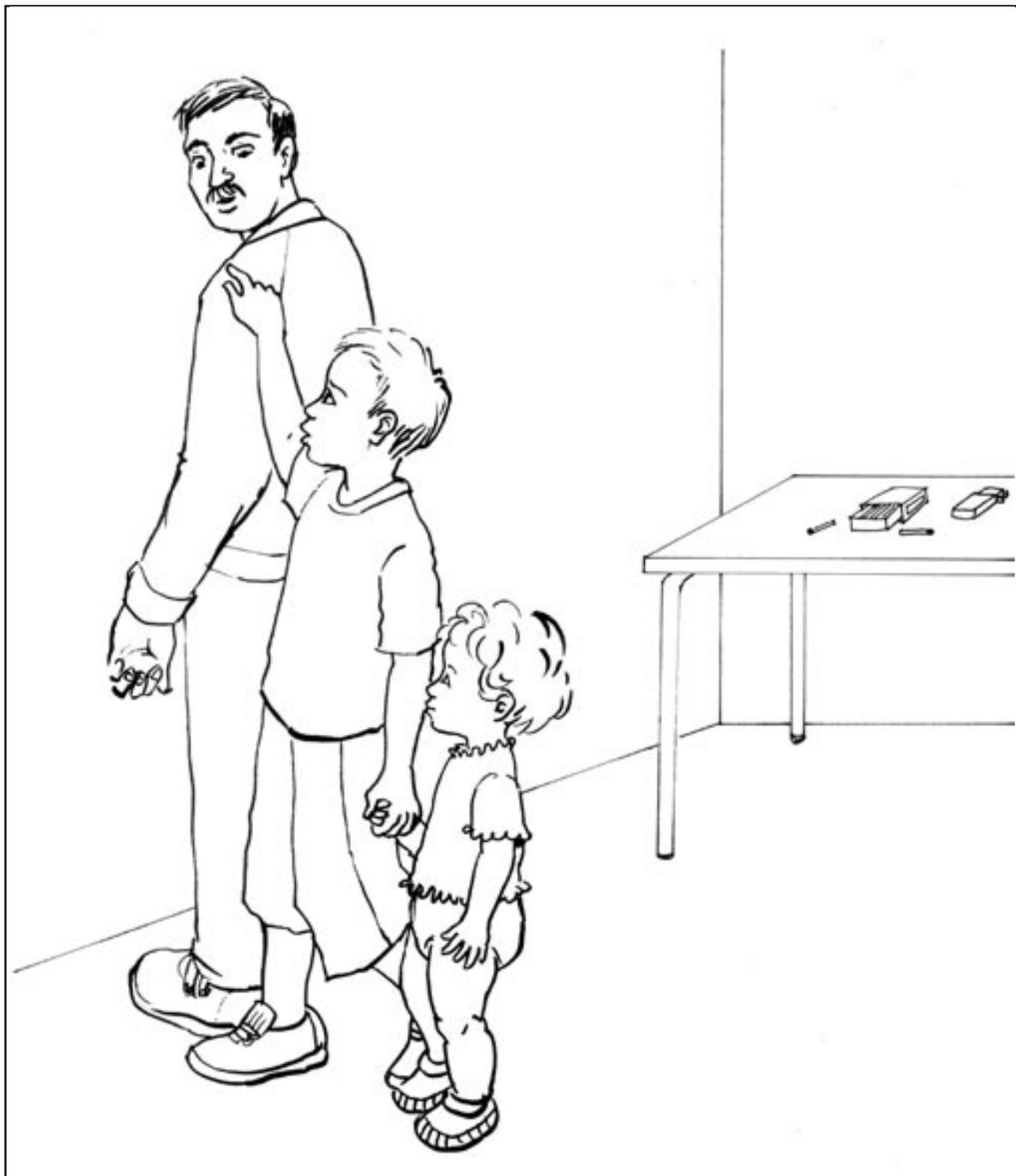




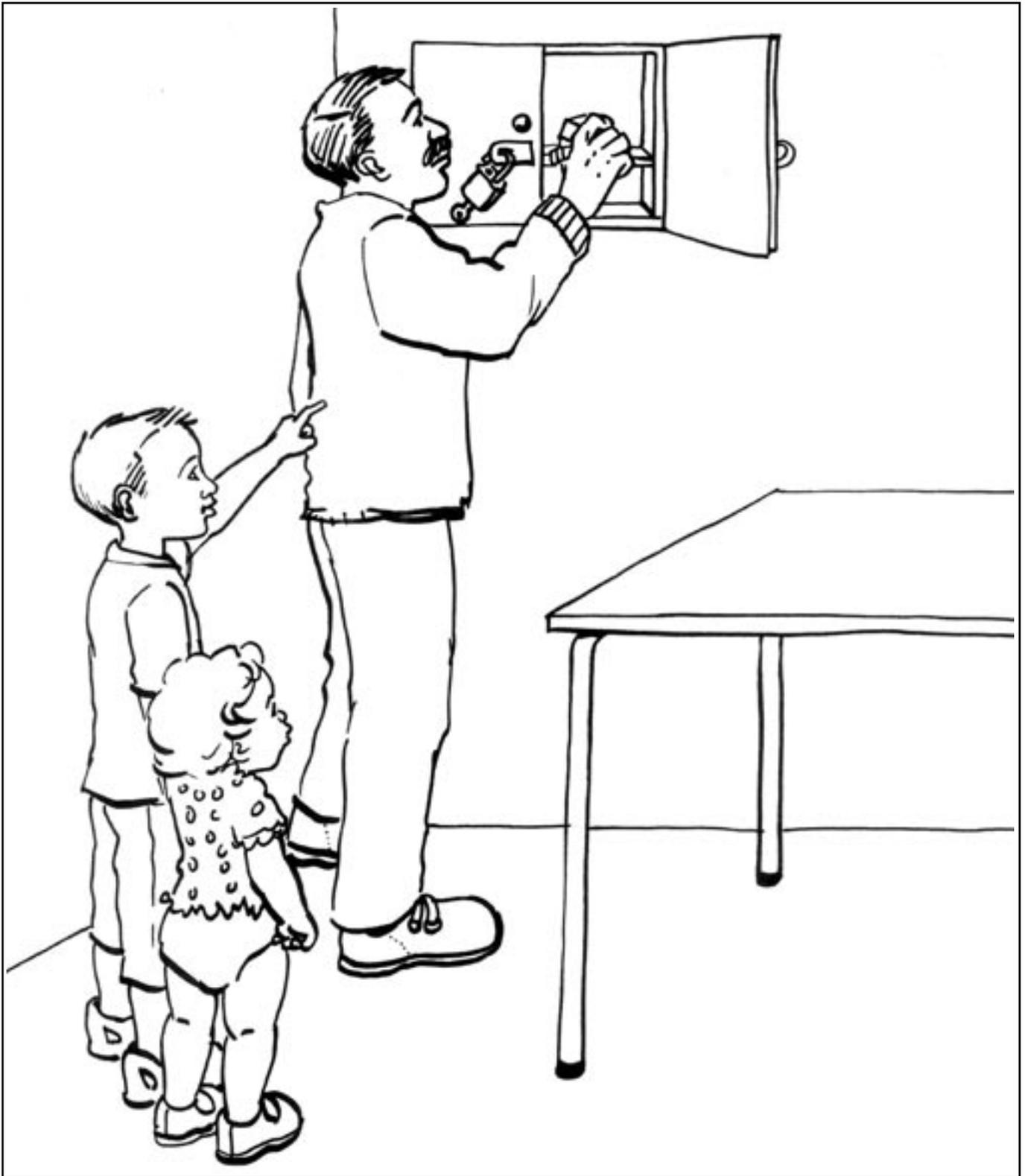
Look! What's that on the table? Oh no!
Dad forgot to put away the matches and lighter.
Now Sarie wants to play with them.



Jannie says: "No! Don't touch that! Be careful!
We must stay away from matches and lighters.
They can burn us."



Jannie taps his Dad on the shoulder.
He asks his dad
to put the matches and lighter away safely.



Dad puts the matches and lighter
safely UP AND AWAY.

Then he thanks Jannie for looking after his baby sister.

Questions to talk about

- 1. What did Jannie's baby sister see on the table?**

A box of matches and a cigarette lighter.

- 2. What did Jannie say they must do to stay safe?**

Stay away from matches and lighters.

- 3. What does Jannie ask his Dad?**

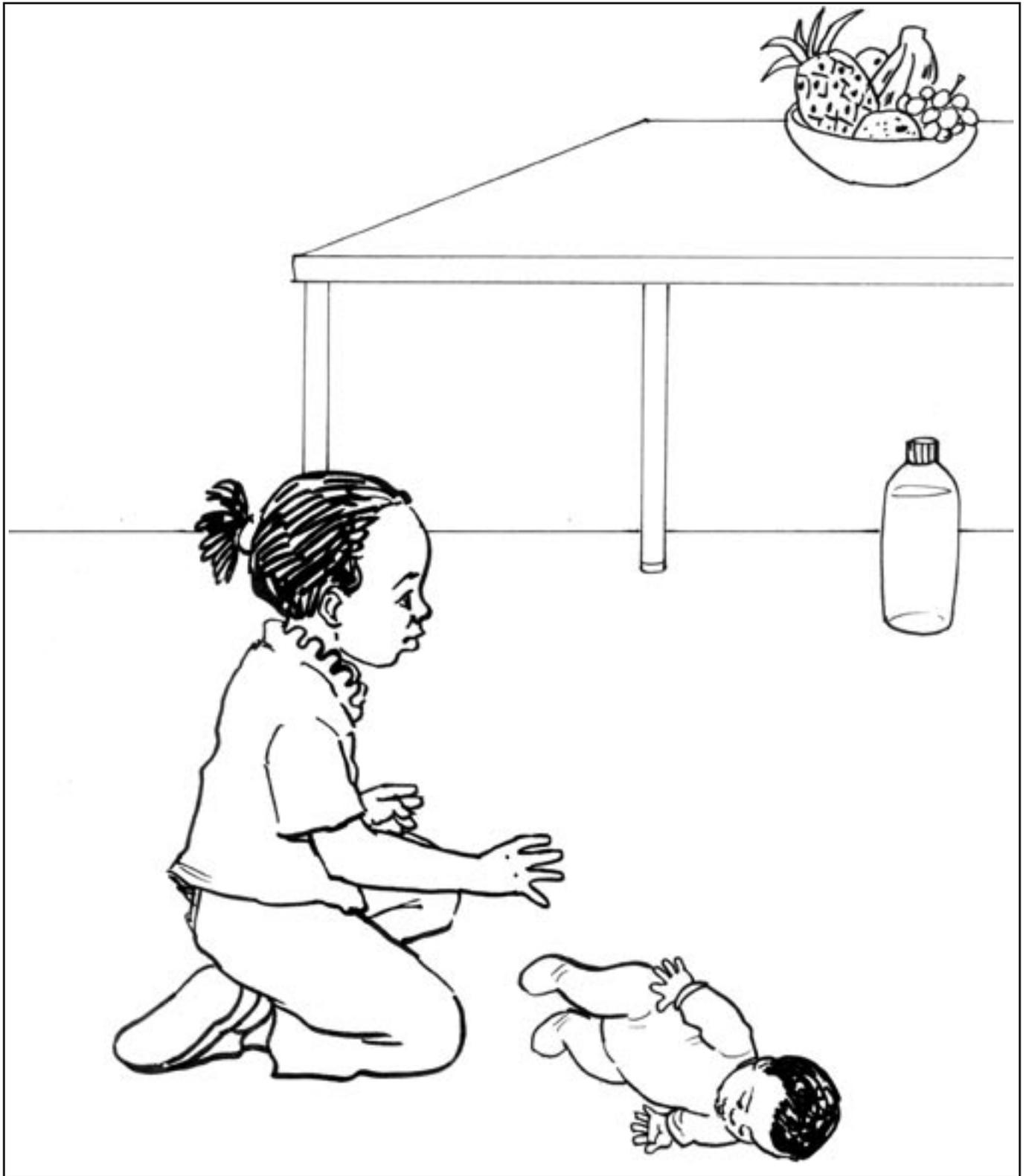
He asks his Dad to put the matches and lighter away safely.

- 4. Where should Dad keep the matches and lighter?**

The safest thing to do with matches and lighters is to lock them up and away from children in a high cupboard.

Stay away from paraffin





Pumla is three years old.
She is playing in the kitchen when she sees
something under the table. What is it?
She bends down to have a closer look.



“Stop!” shouts Mum. “Leave it alone!”
Then she takes the bottle away from Pumla.
“That isn’t water,” she says. “It is paraffin.
It is poisonous and can make you very sick.”



Pumla's mother puts the paraffin bottle
UP AND AWAY.

Now it is safe for Pumla to play.

Questions to talk about

1. What did Pumla see under the table?

A bottle of paraffin.

2. Why is paraffin dangerous?

Paraffin is poisonous and can make you very sick. It also looks like water, so it is easy for children to drink it by mistake.

3. What should children do to stay safe?

Stay away from paraffin.

Don't drink from strange bottles.

If there is a bad smell when you open the bottle, leave it alone and tell an adult to put it away.

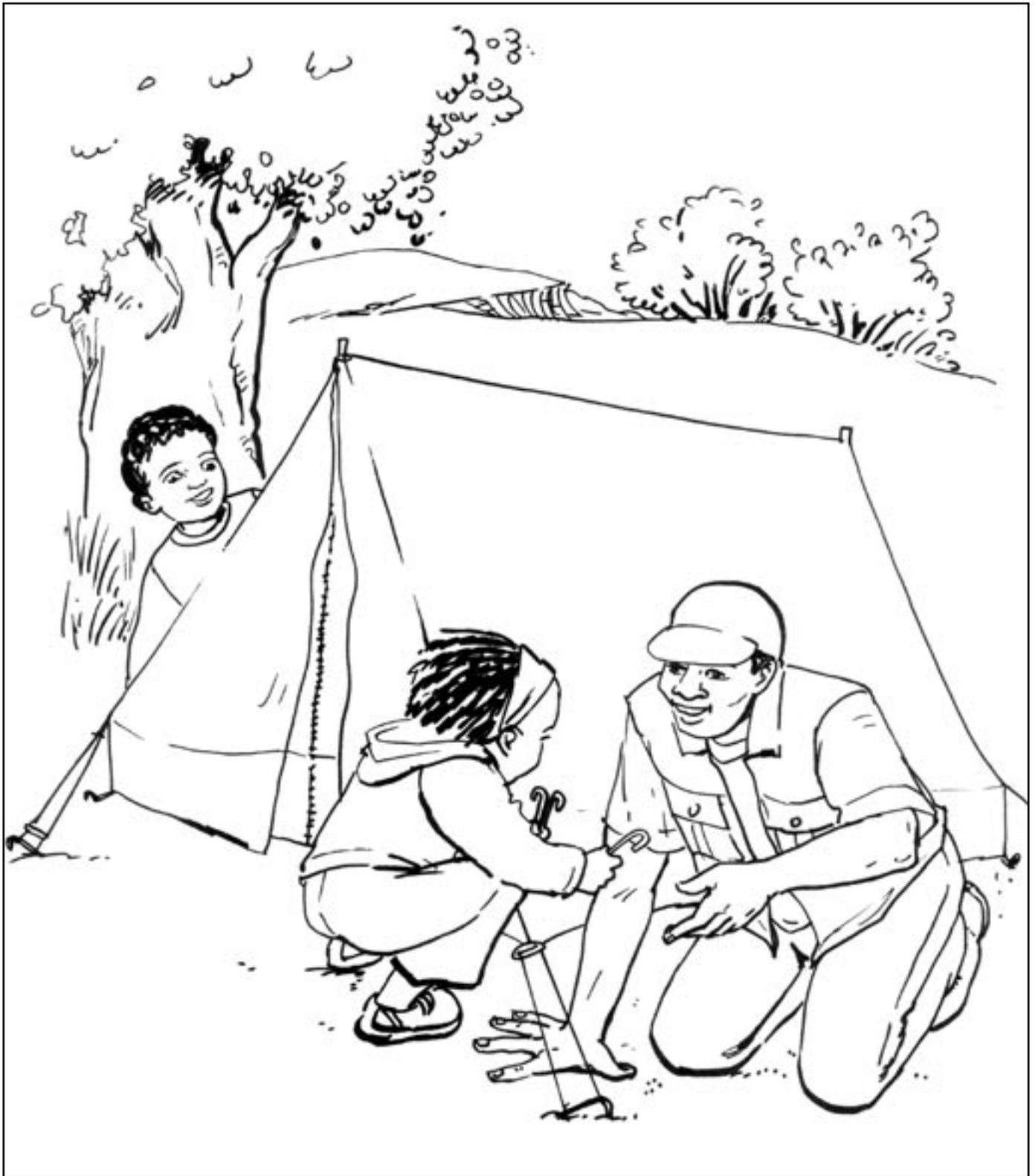
4. What should parents do to keep children safe?

Store paraffin safely up and away from children.

Keep paraffin in a clearly labeled container with a tightly-fitted safety cap.

Stay away from flames and fire





Rose and Mandla go camping.



Rose's dad puts the meat on the fire.
Then he goes to get the bread and salad.



Mandla reaches over the fire to get some meat. Rose shouts: “No! Stop! That is dangerous...”

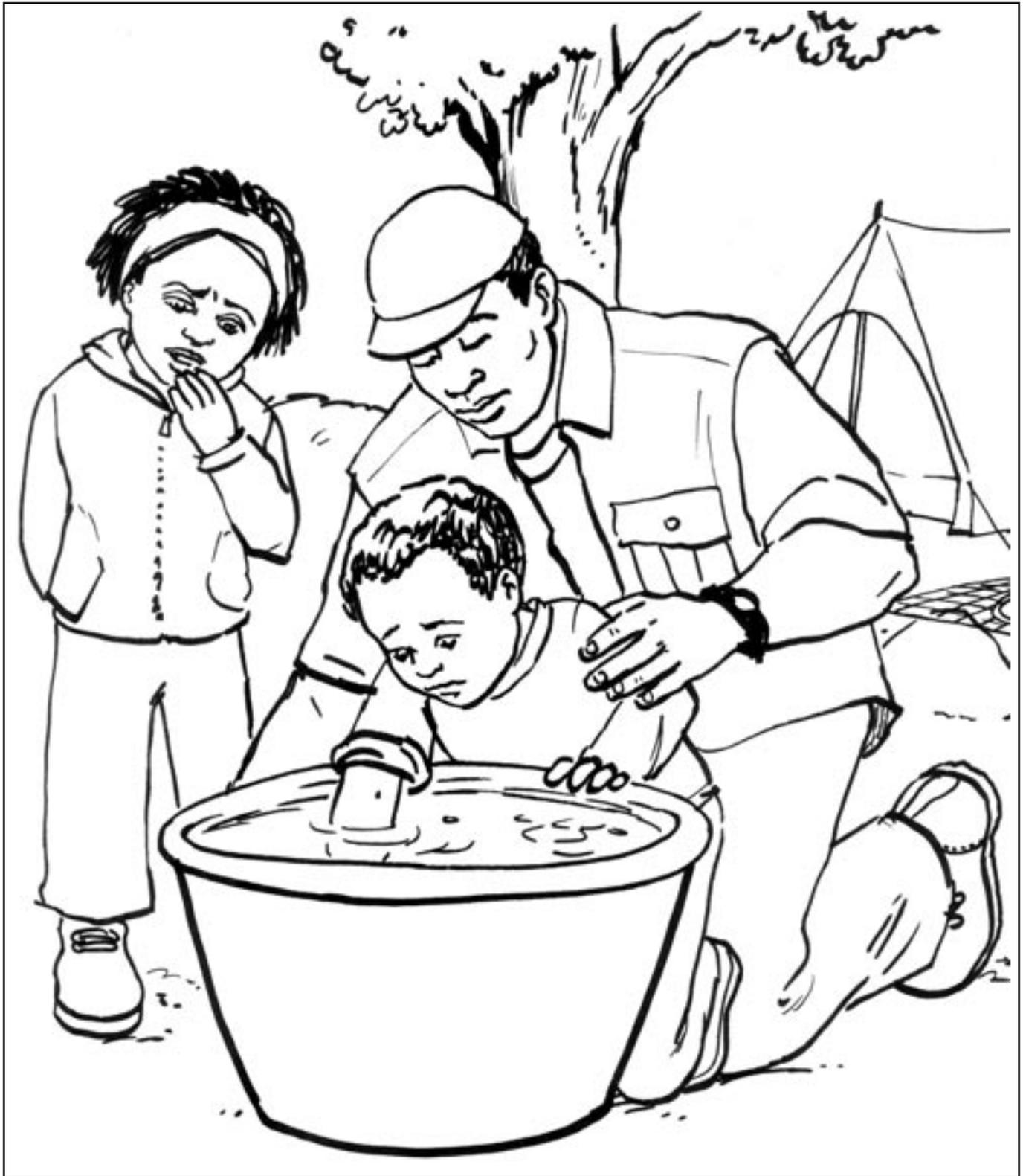


“Help!” shouts Mandla. His shirt is on fire!
What should he do to put out the flames?

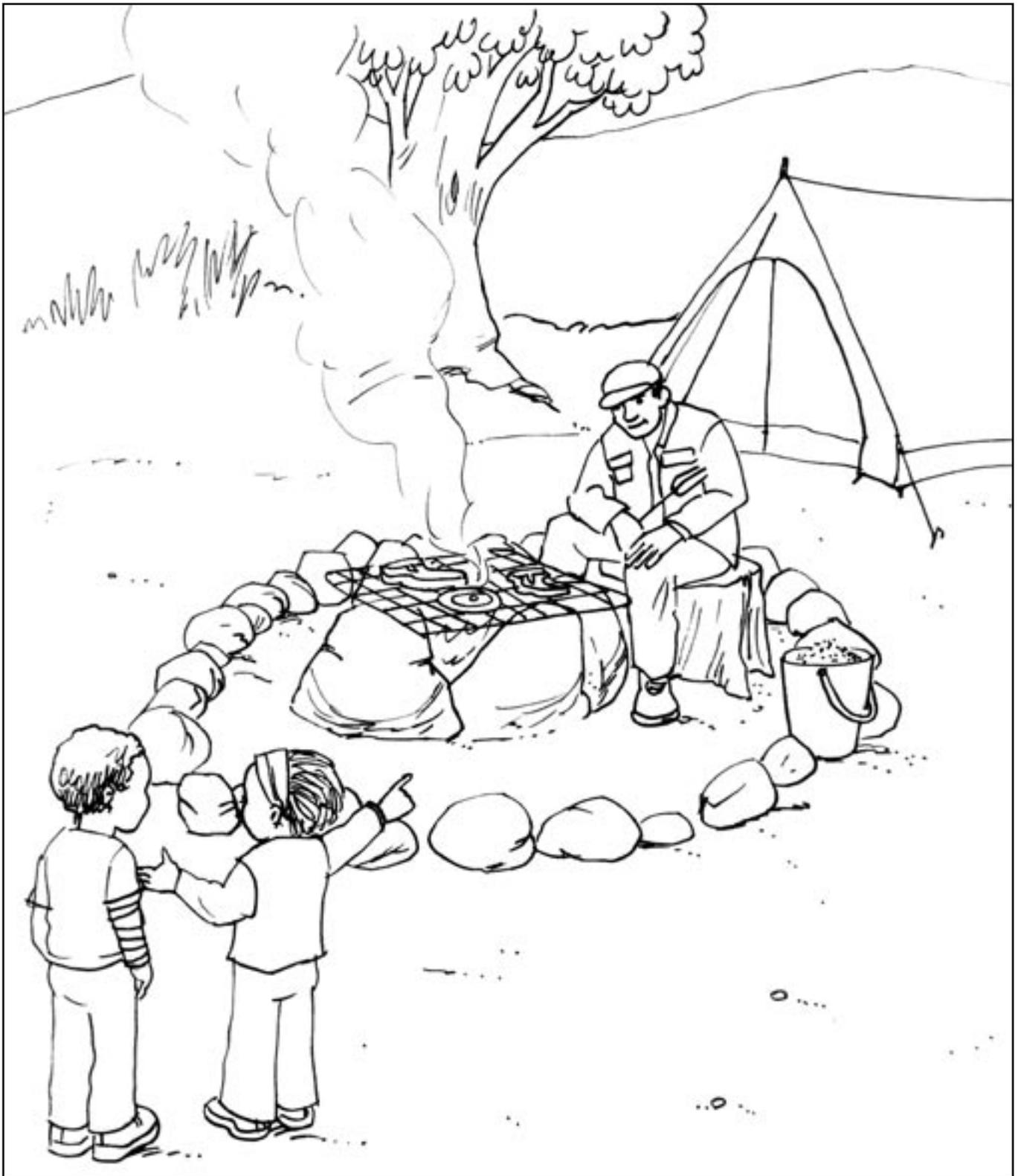
Luckily Mandla knows what to do when his clothes catch fire:



He must stop, drop and roll to put out the flames.



Then Dad helps Mandla cool the burn.
He puts the burn in cool water.



Dad teaches the children
to stay at least **ONE METRE AWAY**
from flames and fire.

Questions to talk about

1. What happened to Mandla?

Mandla's shirt caught on fire.

2. Why did Mandla get hurt?

He was too close to the fire.

3. What can children do to stay safe from flames and fire?

Stay away from flames and fire.

Children should stay at least
ONE METRE AWAY from flames and fire.

4. What can parents do to keep children safe?

Never leave children alone near a fire.

5. What should we do if our clothes catch on fire?

STOP what you are doing

DROP to the ground and

ROLL over and over to put out the flames.

Fatima's house is on fire





It is late at night and everyone is sleeping, when a fire breaks out in Fatima's house. It is hot and there are flames and smoke.



Luckily, Fatima knows what to do...
She must get out the house and stay outside.
Fatima goes low under the smoke to get outside.
She calls out to warn her Mum and Dad. **FIRE! FIRE!**



When everyone is out safely, Fatima's mom calls the fire station on her cell phone. DRING! DRING! Look! Here come the firefighters to put out the fire. WOOOO! WOOOO! WOOOO!



The firefighters save the house. Mom gives Fatima a big hug and says, “Thanks to you, no-one got hurt. I am so proud of you!”

Questions to talk about

1. How did Fatima know there was a fire?

There was smoke and flames. It felt hot.

2. If your house catches on fire, what should you do?

Get out fast and stay outside.

3. If the house is full of smoke, what should you do?

Go low under the smoke to get outside.

4. When everyone was out safely, what did Fatima's mother do?

She called the fire department.

Fire Safety Stories

Learn Not to Burn® Preschool Programme South Africa

Written by Lori Lake and illustrated by Carole Howes
OpenBook Educational Media Design

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LOGOS TO FOLLOW

Fire safety stories

Burns are a leading cause of injury amongst preschool children in South Africa. These picture stories are designed to help educators, parents and caregivers teach young children how to stay out of danger.

This series of five picture stories helps children understand the dangers of hot water, matches and lighters, paraffin and open flames. The stories also teach children how to stay out of danger and what to do if they get burnt, or if their clothes catch fire, or if a fire breaks out at home.

As you read through each story, ask questions to deepen children's understanding of these key safety messages and to help children make the connections between the stories and their own lives. For example:

- What do you see in the picture?
- What do you think will happen next?
- What would you do in this situation?