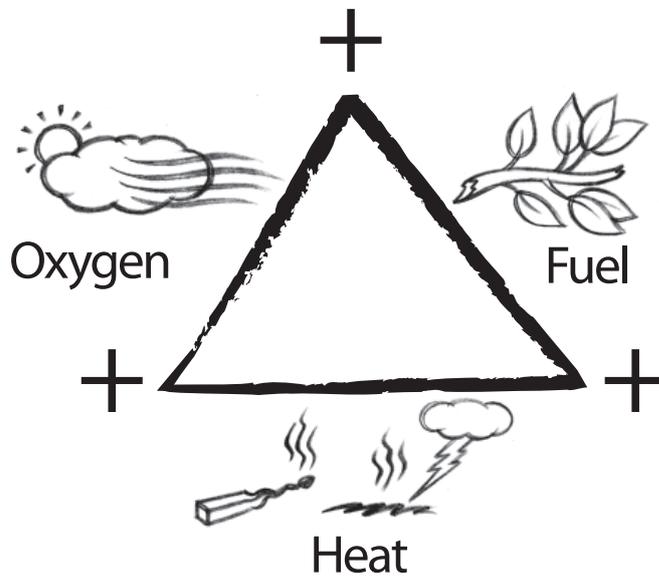


FIRE TRIANGLE



Fire is a chemical reaction which needs three things to be present:



If one of these isn't present, the fire cannot start. If one of these is taken away, the fire will go out.

So how does it all work?

Oxygen

We all breathe the oxygen in the air around us, and so does fire. If we cover a fire, it can't get any more oxygen and will suffocate.

Fuel

Anything that will burn can provide fuel to feed a fire. It can be solid (like wood, fabric and plastic), liquid (like petrol and cooking oil) or gas (like the gas you might cook with at home or in your barbeque). One of the ways you can protect your house from bushfires is to clean leaves out of your gutters, and keep flammable things such as log piles and gas bottles away from your house.

Heat

The final piece of the triangle is having enough heat to set fire to the fuel. Lots of things can provide heat for a fire, such as lightning, matches, electricity, heaters, radiators, stoves, overloaded power points, and damaged electrical cords. You can prevent fires from starting by removing sources of heat. Firefighters also use water and foam to cool fires to put them out.

Activity: Fire Triangle

Opposite is a list of ways we can prevent fires, or put them out once they've started.

Each of them targets part of the fire triangle.

Do you know which one?

Circle Oxygen, Heat or Fuel.

Fire prevention / treatment

- 1 Pouring water on the fire
- 2 Covering the fire with a fire blanket
- 3 Rolling on the ground to extinguish clothes on fire
- 4 Clearing fallen branches and leaves from around your house
- 5 Turning off heaters when you leave the house
- 6 Making sure you turn off the gas when you finish cooking

Fire Triangle

Oxygen	Heat	Fuel

Answers: 1 heat, 2 oxygen, 3 oxygen, 4 fuel, 5 heat, 6 fuel

For more CFS activities, visit: www.cfs.sa.gov.au