THE POWER TO PREVENT AND DETECT FIRES
To all of the wonderful citizens of the State of Connecticut:

October is Fire Prevention Month all across the nation. The City of Hartford Fire Department would like to emphasize the importance of fire safety in the homes, schools, workplace & environment.

Since our founding in 1864, we have provided life safety and fire protection. Currently, there are 325 full time career firefighters serving the 18 square miles of the city from 12 fire stations which house 11 engine companies, 5 ladder companies, and 1 tactical unit.

The City of Hartford Fire Department is “committed to preventing and minimizing the loss of life and property through incident stabilization and mitigation with the delivery of professional, high quality, efficient emergency fire, rescue and emergency medical service, fire prevention, public education and hazardous materials response as a regional partner for the protection of the residents, business community and visitors to the City of Hartford and its region.”

In an effort to promote fire safety in conjunction with the rest of the Nation, we, The City of Hartford Fire Department, would like to bring awareness to one of the many ways YOU can be fire safe: SMOKEALARMS!

Smoke alarms can save your life. Sixty five percent of home fire deaths occur due to not having smoke alarms or smoke alarms that don’t work. When there is a fire, smoke spreads fast and you need smoke alarms to give you time to escape. There are many different kinds you can choose from. Every floor of your home should have one and they should be tested at least once every month. Replacing batteries at the beginning and ending of Daylight Saving Time is strongly recommended (Change your Clocks/Change your Batteries). To obtain more information please visit National Fire Protection Association at www.nfpa.org.

Let’s join the nation during Fire Prevention’s 2010 Campaign theme: Beep! Beep! Beep! - SMOKE ALARMS - A sound you can LIVE with.

For more information please contact:
The City of Hartford Fire Department Special Services Unit at 860-757-4520

Many thanks to the Connecticut Children’s Medical Center for their efforts in helping us educate the public on fire safety!

The Author
Kevin Borrup wrote this comic series to help educate children and parents on childhood safety issues while still having fun. He has worked at the Injury Prevention Center since 2004, helping to keep kids safe and injury free!

The Illustrator
Scott DaRos is an illustrator and animator who is best known for his work in stop-motion animation and comics. For further information on the illustrator go to: www.scottdaros.com Colored by Alexis Deprey and Scott DaRos.
Come on Benny, or you'll be late.

I'm coming. I just need to finish putting on my cape.

I can't believe we're going to have to go to a new school.

Benny, I can see you. You can't turn invisible just by thinking about it.

Aww Mom, I thought for sure I could do it with my cape on.

Hey, where's my cape?
Make sure you two say goodbye to your teachers and your friends.

At least you two will have each other. Now get going.

Mom, we don't want to move!

We're not going to know anyone at the new school.
We have a special guest today, Captain Super Safe. He is here to talk with you about fire safety.

Who can tell me what you should do if there is a fire in your home?

If there is a fire you should get out and stay out.

That's right everyone, get out and stay out. Never go back into a burning building to get anything.
Yes, go ahead Emilia.

My family and I have an escape plan. We use it to practice leaving the house and meeting up at our neighbor’s house.

Good point Emilia. You should all talk with your parents tonight and agree on a place for the whole family to meet once you are out of the house.

Well, that’s all for now.

Thank you for coming today.
Hi, how was school today?

Good, I guess. We'll miss our school.

I know you two are sad but you will make new friends and our new home will be great. You'll see.

We're all packed and tomorrow we'll be at the new house.
At the new house...

Hold on there Benny, let me help. This box of books is really heavy.

I think your super cape is broken!

If I can't turn invisible and I don't have super strength, what powers do I have?

We're almost finished!

I don't think we're done, I feel there is something dangerous in this house.

Nothing is wrong Benny, it's just new and different.

The danger isn't here. The pot handles are turned in so that you or your sister aren't able to reach up and grab a handle. If you did, you could get burned if something hot, like soup, spilled on you.
Benny says he senses something dangerous. That must be his superpower.

I'm setting the hot water heater down to below 120 degrees so that you and your brother don't get burned washing your hands or taking a bath.

Mom, I just know that there is something else we need to do.

You two can figure it out tomorrow, it's time to get ready for bed.

I think I feel it too...
It's okay, I checked the water with the thermometer already, it's not too hot.

...and so he became emperor of the land. The end.

Mom, Dad, come QUICK!

Goodnight.
There are no smoke detectors anywhere in this house!

Oh no!

Here are the smoke detectors.

We should buy six.

One for the kitchen, one for the basement, one for the family room, and one for each room where we sleep.

We also need these.

What are those? More smoke detectors?
No, they're carbon monoxide, or CO detectors. They can detect a deadly odorless, colorless gas that comes from burning gas, oil, and other fuels, too.

Don't forget extra batteries.

Captain Super Safe says we need to test the smoke detectors every month. And, replace the batteries if we need to.

Later that night...

Well, this is the last one we need to install.

I feel much safer now.

Me too. We could have been in big trouble without those smoke detectors. Good job you two.
We're ready to go to school, mom.

Where are your capes?

I don't think we'll need them at the new school.

Well I'll put them right here in your backpacks if you need them.
Hi you two, I'll see you in class today.

Wow, you guys know Captain Super Safe? I'm Elijah. Welcome to our school!

Thanks, I'm Benny and this is my sister Emilia. If you want we can introduce you to Captain Super Safe, come on.

Hello everyone, I'm here today to speak with you about fire safety. But I see that you already have a pair of Super Safe experts in your class. Do you two think you could help me out with this lesson?

We sure can!

Even without our capes on.
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Can you help Benny and Emilia get out and go to the agreed upon meeting place?

Fire Safety Tips:
- Never play with matches or lighters.
- Never leave a lit candle unattended.
- Never leave the kitchen unattended.
- Have a fire escape plan & practice it with your family.
- Never go back into a burning building. Get Out & Stay Out!
- Don’t Hide, Go Outside! Never hide under the beds or in the closets when there’s a fire.
- If your clothes catch on fire STOP, DROP, Cover your FACE & ROLL.
- If there’s smoke, Crawl Low Under It.
- Know Two Ways Out!