

# Natural Gas Safety Decal

## Objective:

Students will design and construct decals which emphasize natural gas safety practices.

Materials and Curriculum  
Correlations ▼

## ► Introduction

Natural gas is a safe energy source; however, as with any energy source, it is important to know how to safely use natural gas and care for natural gas appliances. Like other types of energy, natural gas has the potential to be dangerous when it is used improperly. There are important safety precautions to take when using natural gas inside and outside your home.

### Procedure

1. Ask students the following questions to assess their knowledge of the subject and to stimulate interest in the activity:
  - What is a decal?
  - How can it be used to promote natural gas safety?
2. Discuss with students the value of natural gas and the need to use it safely.
3. Display the *Natural Gas Safety Poster* from the National Energy Foundation (NEF) and discuss it with students. Pass out the student sheet. Discuss the practices and how they apply to students.
4. Ask students to design decals, which illustrate natural gas safety practices on contact paper.
5. Have students cut out the decal with the backing still on the contact paper.
6. The decal can be used at home, in school or in the community.

### Discussion

1. Ask students to show their decals to the class and explain the safety practice depicted.
2. Have students list four natural gas safety practices.
3. Assign students to report on where they placed their decal and any effects it had.

## To Know and Do More

A slogan is a short and memorable phrase that helps someone remember a topic. Have students design a slogan to go with their natural gas safety decal. Here are some examples to get started.

### Examples of Natural Gas Safety Slogans

- Safety is no accident.
- Natural gas safety rules are your best tools.
- Safety is our number one priority.
- Remember your ABCs. Always be careful.
- Natural gas safety is free, use plenty of it.

## Materials Needed:

- White contact paper
- Colored marking pens
- Student sheet
- Scissors

## Curriculum Correlations

K-ESS3 - 3  
4-LS1 - 2  
4-ESS3 - 1

5-ESS3 - 1  
MS-LS1 - 8  
MS-ESS3 - 1

HS-ESS3 - 1

# Natural Gas Safety Practices

1. Follow manufacturer's instruction for the installation, operation and maintenance of gas equipment and appliances.
2. Keep flammable materials (paint, solvents, cloth, paper) away from appliances.
3. Provide proper ventilation in areas around furnace, water heaters, dryers, ranges, etc.
4. Keep fire extinguishers in the vicinity of appliances with open flames.
5. When lighting a natural gas appliance, always ignite the flame first, then turn on the natural gas.
6. Have routine maintenance performed on appliances to keep them clean and in proper working order.
7. Make sure all vents and chimneys are free from blockage.
8. Clean or change filters on furnaces and dryers regularly.
9. Check the temperature setting on the water heater. It should be set at 120 F.
10. A natural gas flame should be blue. If it is not, contact the natural gas company.
11. Call 811 before digging in the yard.
12. If you smell the natural gas odor in the house:
  - a. Tell an adult and leave the area at once.
  - b. Leave the doors open. Do not use the phone, light switches or flashlights.
  - c. Call 911 and the natural gas company from a neighbor's house.
  - d. Stay away until the natural gas company says it is safe to return.
13. Install a carbon monoxide (CO) detector in your home.
14. Do not play near any natural gas equipment, including pipes and the meter.
15. Never use portable grills intended for outdoor use in the house or garage.