

## Video – What is fire?

**KATIE:** Hi. I'm Katie and this is my brother Jack.

**JACK:** Hi.

**KATIE:** We're here to tell you about fire safety and the dangers that fire can cause.

**JACK:** How dangerous is fire?

**KATIE:** Fire can be deadly dangerous.

**KATIE:** A fire in a house can start as easy as this and you might not hear anything – the burning fabric hardly makes a sound. Then the fire will quickly spread.

**JACK:** A bit like a bonfire outside?

**KATIE:** No - a fire inside a house will spread much more rapidly than a fire outside.

**KATIE:** Within 30 seconds, the fabric on the sofa starts to give off poisonous gas and heat.

**JACK:** What happens to them?

**KATIE:** They gases very quickly rise to the ceiling and become trapped. They then spread out and form a layer under the ceiling. This layer becomes thicker and hotter as more material burns.

**JACK:** What would happen if the lounge door was left open?

**KATIE:** The whole house would quickly fill with this hot, toxic smoke

**JACK:** How dangerous is it?

**KATIE:** Choking smoke is just as dangerous and deadly as the flames. After only 2 minutes this layer of trapped smoke gets hotter and hotter. As the heat increases it will quickly burn whatever else is in the room.

**JACK:** Wow!

**KATIE:** After 3 minutes the heat becomes so intense that everything in the room reaches what's called the ignition point and immediately bursts into flames.

**JACK:** That's like an explosion!

**KATIE:** Yes. Firefighters call this moment the flashover. Then the fire accelerates out of control in all directions.

**JACK:** That's unbelievable and it only takes 3 minutes!

**KATIE:** Yes, the same amount of time it might take you to brush your teeth.

**KATIE:** And fire can destroy a lot more than furniture and belongings - if anyone had been in this room, they wouldn't have survived.