



Safety Sleuth: Third Grade Program

Theme: Situational Awareness & Electrical Safety

Grade Level: Grade 3

Estimated Time: 30-40 Minutes + Poster Project Time

Lesson Overview

In this modified Safety Sleuth lesson tailored specifically for 3rd grade, students learn what it means to be a “Safety Sleuth” by exploring situational safety and awareness. Students learn to recognize how different situations feel (safe vs. unsafe) and use their eyes, ears, and brain to identify potential indoor and outdoor electrical hazards before accidents happen. Students view the PSEG Long Island Safety Videos, discuss critical electrical safety rules, and apply their knowledge through a hands-on “Be a Safety Sleuth” Poster Project, home safety checklist, and pledge.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

- Define Situational Safety & Awareness: Recognize how safe vs. unsafe environments feel, understand that different places require different safety actions, and practice “seeing the situation” to make safe choices.
- Understand the Power & Danger of Electricity: Explain everyday uses of electricity while recognizing that human bodies are not made to touch or connect with electricity.
- Identify Indoor & Outdoor Electrical Hazards: Recall key indoor and outdoor safety rules, including staying clear of power lines, avoiding wet hands or water near cords, and identifying broken wires/ outlets.
- Demonstrate & Share Safety Knowledge: Create an informative visual safety poster illustrating a key electrical safety tip using the designated poster template and rubric.

Materials & Resources

- Welcome Letter
- 3rd Grade Safety Sleuth [Slide Deck](#)
- PSEG Long Island Safety Videos ([Indoor](#) & [Outdoor](#) Safety)
- Safety Sleuth Poster Paper (Provided)
- [Safety Sleuth Rubric](#)
- [School Permission Form](#)
- [Electric Safety Checklist](#)

Lessons Sequence

HOOK & INTRODUCTION – WHAT IS A SAFETY SLEUTH? (5–7 MINUTES)

Introduce the Sleuth Mission (Slides 1–2)

Explain that today students are becoming Safety Sleuths. A Safety Sleuth investigates and identifies ways to stay safe, with a mission to learn safety concepts and teach others in their community.

Explore Situational Safety (Slides 3–4)

- Define situational safety: Understanding that different places require different safety actions, and learning to “see the situation” to decide what to do.
- Discussion Prompts:
 - How does safe and unsafe feel to you? What feelings do you experience when you are safe vs. unsafe?
 - What steps should you take if you are in an unsafe situation?
 - Contrast scenarios: Think about how you would feel alone in a spooky haunted house versus watching a good movie with your best friend.
- **Student Reflection:** Ask students to choose one word or phrase to describe what “SAFE” feels like for them and explain why.

INTRODUCTION TO ELECTRICAL SAFETY (3–5 MINUTES)

Everyday Electricity & Body Connection (Slide 5)

- Discuss everyday items powered by electricity (TVs, lights, ovens, computers, phone chargers).
- Highlight safety principle: While electricity is essential and useful, it can be very harmful to the human body. Our bodies are not made to touch or connect with electricity, so handling it with care is vital.

WATCH & LEARN – PSEG LONG ISLAND SAFETY VIDEOS (10–12 MINUTES)

Outdoor Electrical Safety Video (Slide 6)

- *Outdoor Safety Question:* What should you do if you see a fallen wire or an outdoor transformer box? (Answer: Fallen wires are ALWAYS dangerous—stay back immediately and tell an adult/call for help.)
- *Situational Awareness in Action:* How does looking UP and around you help keep you safe when playing outdoors? (Answer: Helps spot overhead power lines before flying kites, climbing trees, or carrying tall items.)

Indoor Electrical Safety Video (Slide 7)

- *Indoor Safety Question:* What are two rules about electricity and water? (Answer: Water and electricity do not mix! Keep cords/appliances away from sinks and water, and never touch electrical items with wet hands.)
- *Situational Awareness in Action:* How does looking at cords and outlets in the kitchen help keep you safe while indoors? (Answer: Helps spot frayed/damaged cords, overloaded outlets, or items too close to water faucets.)

INTERACTIVE REVIEW – KEY SAFETY RULES (5 MINUTES)

Review the 7 Core Electrical Safety Rules (Slide 8)

1. If you see any broken wires or outlets, let an adult know right away.
2. Look UP and LOOK OUT for power lines outdoors. Fallen wires are ALWAYS dangerous—stay back and tell a grown-up immediately!
3. Do not touch an outlet with your fingers or any other body part!
4. Do not put a metal object (or any other object that doesn't belong) in an outlet.
5. Be sure to keep wires or electrical items away from water faucets and spilled water. Water and electricity do not mix!
6. Do not chew or pull on wires that are connected into an outlet.
7. ALWAYS ask an adult before using anything that requires electricity.

HANDS-ON POSTER PROJECT & WRAP-UP (15+ MINUTES)

Poster Challenge Guidelines (Slides 8–9)

- Distribute official Safety Sleuth Poster Paper.
- Instruct students to select one key safety rule that is important to them, draw an illustrative picture demonstrating the tip, and write out the corresponding safety tip clearly.
- *Important Tip:* Instruct students to draw their picture on the side of the paper that is blank except for the Safety Sleuth logo (do not draw on the side containing student name details).
- Explain that posters will be evaluated using the Safety Sleuth Rubric and submitted alongside the signed School Permission Form.

Home Connection & Official Pledge (Slides 10–11)

- **Home Mission:** Direct students to take home the Electric Safety Checklist and complete it with their family to audit and improve home electrical safety.
- **Safety Sleuth Pledge:** Recite or review the official Safety Sleuth Certification Pledge:
“I am now a certified Safety Sleuth and I understand how to be safe not only in my home and surrounding environment but also around electricity. I know that there are trusted adults in my life who are always there to be my ‘safe people.’ I will not hesitate to ask for help or for guidance when I feel unsafe. I will use and share the knowledge I gained from the Safety Sleuth program with my friends and family so we can be safe every day.”