



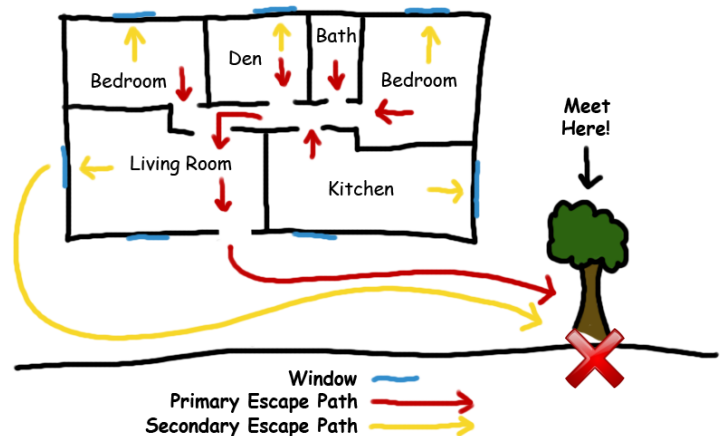
## ARLINGTON COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE PREVENTION OFFICE



### Home Fire Escape Plan

**Using the grid on the other side of this paper, draw a floor plan of your house:**

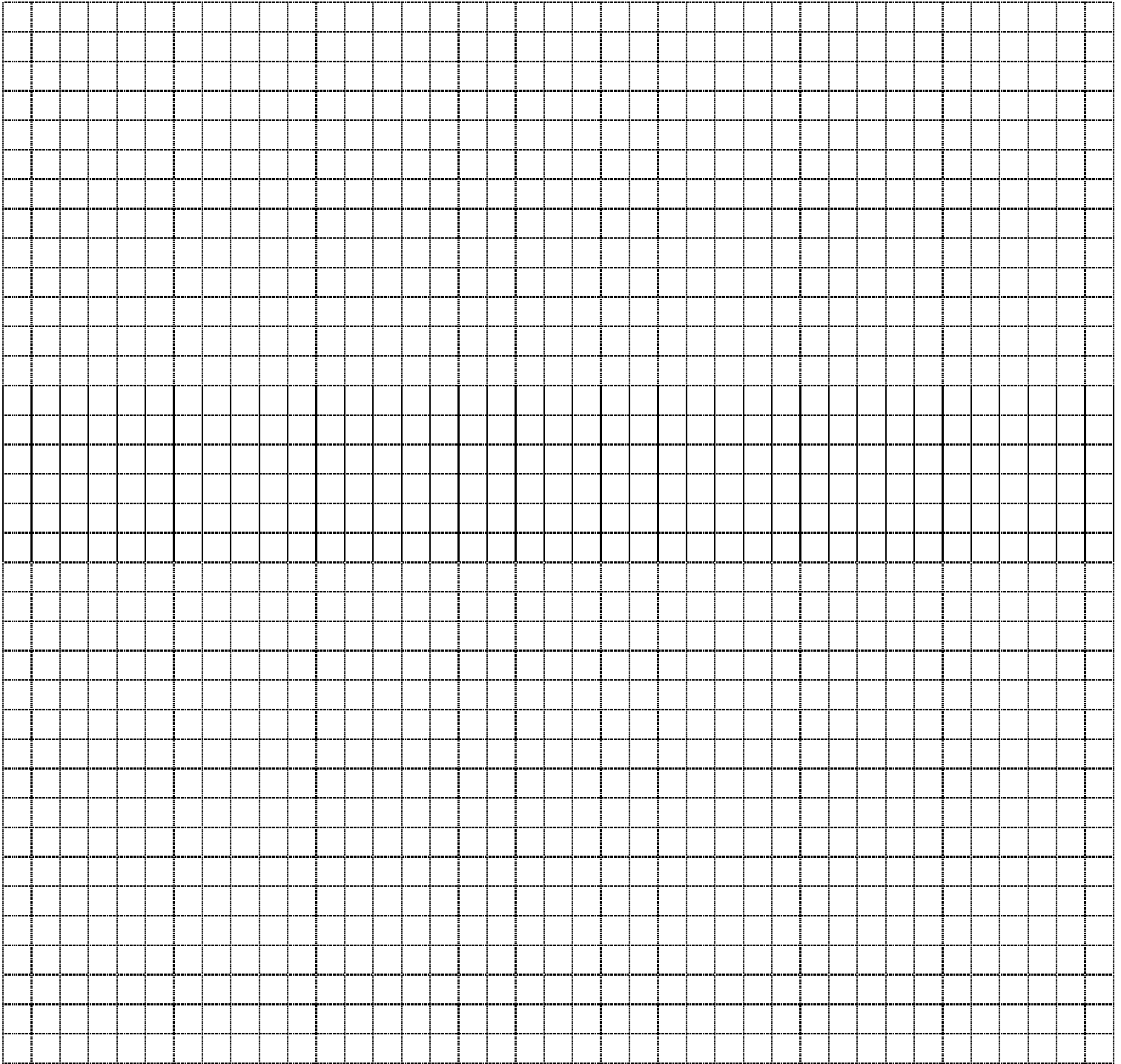
- Make sure each room is identified, as well as the doors and windows – these are your escape routes!
- Plan two escape routes from each room and mark the way out on the plan
- Agree on a meeting place outside the house and mark it on the plan with a big "X"
- Mark the location of smoke alarms in your home with an "S" with a circle around it, there should be at least one smoke alarm in every bedroom or sleeping area



**Fire safety is everyone's business. If you make a home fire escape plan and practice it regularly, your family will know what to do in event of an emergency in your home. Check your smoke alarm batteries every month and change them at least twice a year. Here are some simple fire safety rules:**

- Smoke kills! Do not get up and run when your smoke alarm goes off. Instead, roll out of bed, and then **crawl on the floor** to the door. Smoke rises, so the air will be easier to breathe at floor level. Heat also rises, so it will be cooler there as well.
- Before you open the door, check it with the back of your hand for heat. Start feeling at the bottom and work your way up to the door handle. If the door or handle is hot – do not open the door! Find a second way out of the room!
- If there is smoke outside the door, close the door and stuff the cracks to keep the smoke out. Go to the window instead. If you can get out of the window, escape that way. If you cannot, open the window and call for help. If smoke comes inside the window – close it!
- **Don't hide!** Firefighters can't help you if they can't find you. Make as much noise as you can and let the firefighters know where you are.
- If you can, close doors behind you as you leave. This will slow the spread of smoke and flames throughout your home.
- Go directly to your meeting place. Do not stop to find your pets or valuables.
- **Get out and stay out.** Never go back inside a burning building for anything.
- **Call 9-1-1** from a cell phone or neighbor's home.
- Account for every family member at the meeting place and report any missing members to the fire department and their last known location.

# HOME FIRE ESCAPE PLAN



**Practice your escape plan! Remember, a fire drill is not a race!  
Get out quickly, but get out safely!**

- Crawl low to avoid heat and smoke.
- Feel doors with the back of your hand before opening them.
- Do not open the door if it feels hot - use your second exit.
- Meet outside and then **call 911** for help.
- Stay outside no matter what - don't go back for anything!