

Track your progress through the exhibition with this guide that will direct you to all the amazing things to see and do. **Check off** completed activities as you go.

#1 THE WOODEN CITY

See how Chicago was built in 1871 and meet the diverse people who lived here.

- Explore:** Get to know the wooden city in the **Will it Burn?** area and see if you can guess what materials are flammable.
- Do:** Find out how good you are at **washing clothes** the way people did in 1871!
- Meet:** Learn what the O’Leary family’s life was like before the fire started in their barn.
- Talk:** How were immigrants and working-class people treated in 1871? How was life then like life today? How was it different?

#2 THE BURNING CITY

Experience how the fire spread despite firefighters’ best efforts. Understand the hard choices people made as they tried to get to safety.

- Do:** Help fight the fire by working the **steam pumper!**
- Explore:** How did the fire grow out of control? Examine the maps showing the fire’s path and watch the video on the physics of the fire.
- Watch:** See people waking up and fleeing the fire and the quick choices they make.
- Meet:** Learn about kids and adults who lived through the fire and discover how they survived.

#3 THE SMOLDERING CITY

Find out how Chicagoans responded to the fire’s destruction and the impact it had on their lives.

- Watch:** Look at images of Chicago after the fire. See what people were facing as they tried to start over.
- Do:** Use your observation skills to identify what the melted objects are at the **What is it?** station. Look for other interesting melted objects on display.
- Explore:** Use the **touchscreen** for the cyclorama painting to see scenes up close. Conversation prompts will help you talk about the dramatic stories you find.
- Talk:** What challenges did people face after the fire? How did people help one another? How can we help after a disaster today?

#4 THE REBUILT CITY

Discover the choices individual people and city officials made as they envisioned how to rebuild Chicago.

- Do:** Try the **What Now?** **touchscreen** to find out what aid your family would receive after the fire.
- Meet:** Joel Bigelow shares his ideas on the future of Chicago.
- Explore:** Learn about Chicago’s other fires and fire safety today. See changes and innovations in fire prevention and how we can all do our part to stay safe.
- Talk:** Why did some people have an easier time than other people after the fire? What could have been done differently to help everyone recover?



When you are finished, **bring your completed sheet to the Museum Store** to receive a free sticker! (one per child)

BACK AT HOME ACTIVITIES

Create a design for future Chicago! After the Great Chicago Fire, it was time to rebuild. People in charge then wanted things to stay the same and didn't take the opportunity to rebuild a more just city. How will you reimagine Chicago? What will make the city a safe, fair, and healthy place for all? Show your ideas!

- ★ **Draw** a series of pictures with captions explaining them.
- ★ **Write** a poem or song expressing your thoughts.
- ★ **Create** a collage to show your vision.
- ★ **Make** a model using empty boxes. Decorate and label the parts of your display.
- ★ **Share** your creations on social media using the hashtag #Chicago1871Edu.

Make and practice your family fire escape plan! Find out how from the American Red Cross: redcross.org/content/dam/redcross/get-help/fire-safety/Home-Fire-Escape-Plan-English-Spanish.pdf

Have fun learning fire safety with these activities from the Chicago Fire Department collected online under Tint Tot Hot Spot: chicago.gov/city/en/depts/cfd/provdrs/prevent/svcs/kids_hot_sport.html

ACTIVIDADES EN CASE

¡Crea un diseño para el Chicago del futuro! Después del Gran Incendio de Chicago, era hora de reconstruir. Los responsables de ayer querían que todo siguiera igual y no aprovecharon la oportunidad de reconstruir una ciudad más justa. ¿Cómo vas a reimaginar Chicago? ¿Cómo conseguirás que la ciudad sea un lugar seguro, justo y saludable para todos? ¡Demuestra tus ideas!

- ★ **Haz** una serie de dibujos con guías para explicarlos.
- ★ **Escribe** una poesía o una canción para expresar tus ideas.
- ★ **Crea** un collage para mostrar tu visión.
- ★ **Construye** un modelo utilizando cajas vacías. Decora y marca las partes de tu exhibición.
- ★ **Comparte** tus creaciones en las redes sociales utilizando el hashtag #Chicago1871Edu.

Elabora y práctica un plan de evacuación familiar en caso de incendio. Descubre cómo hacerlo con la Cruz Roja Americana: redcross.org/content/dam/redcross/get-help/fire-safety/Home-Fire-Escape-Plan-English-Spanish.pdf

Diviértete aprendiendo sobre la seguridad contra incendios con estas actividades del Departamento de Bomberos de Chicago, que se encuentran en línea en Tint Tot Hot Spot: chicago.gov/city/en/depts/cfd/provdrs/prevent/svcs/kids_hot_sport.html



Find more Great Chicago Fire programs and resources at Chicago1871.org

Descubre más programas y recursos sobre el Gran Incendio de Chicago en Chicago1871.org



EXHIBITION SPONSORS
PATROCINADORES DE LA EXHIBICIÓN



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES



INSTITUTE of
Museum and Library
SERVICES

The A. Montgomery Ward Foundation,
Bank of America, N.A., Co-Trustee

EDUCATION SPONSOR
PATROCINADOR EDUCATIVO



Allstate | CHICAGO'S OWN
GOOD HANDS

SAFER CITY SPONSOR
PATROCINADOR DE UNA CIUDAD MÁS SEGURA



Established in part by the Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust and the Elizabeth Morse Genius Charitable Trust, the Exhibition Innovation Fund has provided additional funding for City on Fire: Chicago 1871.

CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT The Chicago History Museum gratefully acknowledges the support of the Chicago Park District on behalf of the people of Chicago.