



**Author Firefighter Dayna Hilton,  
Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog  
and Spanner**



**Firefighter and nationally recognized fire safety expert, Dayna Hilton, known as “Firefighter Dayna” to millions of children and their caregivers, is the author of the critically acclaimed, award-winning children’s fire safety book, *Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog*. Hilton and her book have been credited with helping save several lives.**

**Inspired by her work as a firefighter and her four-legged friend, Sparkles, author Firefighter Dayna Hilton created a heart-warming story about Sparkles.**

**As children learn of the adventures of Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog, they learn valuable fire safety tips enabling them and their families to help keep fire safe. These tips include recognizing the firefighter as a helper and a friend, knowing the sound and purpose of a smoke alarm, learning how to crawl low under smoke, and understanding the importance of practicing a home fire drill using an escape map. *Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog* is not only fun, but educationally sound and based on the latest fire safety research for young children.**

### **Contact Information**

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## Children's Author Firefighter Dayna Hilton



Lottery **PAGE 3**  
**"Oklahoma Children Say Sparkles Helped Them Escape Fires"**  
Firehouse.com

**"Sparkles the Dog Saves the Day"**  
KJRH / Tulsa

**"Sparkles the Dalmation has her paw on the pulse of fire safety"**  
Chicago Tribune

### About the author

Dayna Hilton, a volunteer firefighter and member of several national fire service committees, has authored articles for numerous fire service publications. A leading fire and life safety education expert, Hilton has appeared on *PBS KIDS Sprout* and *FOX and Friends*. Her fire safety efforts and critically acclaimed award winning children's fire safety book, *Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog*, was mentioned on the Floor of Congress and in a Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs committee. To date, *Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog* has been credited with helping save the lives of two adults and seven children.

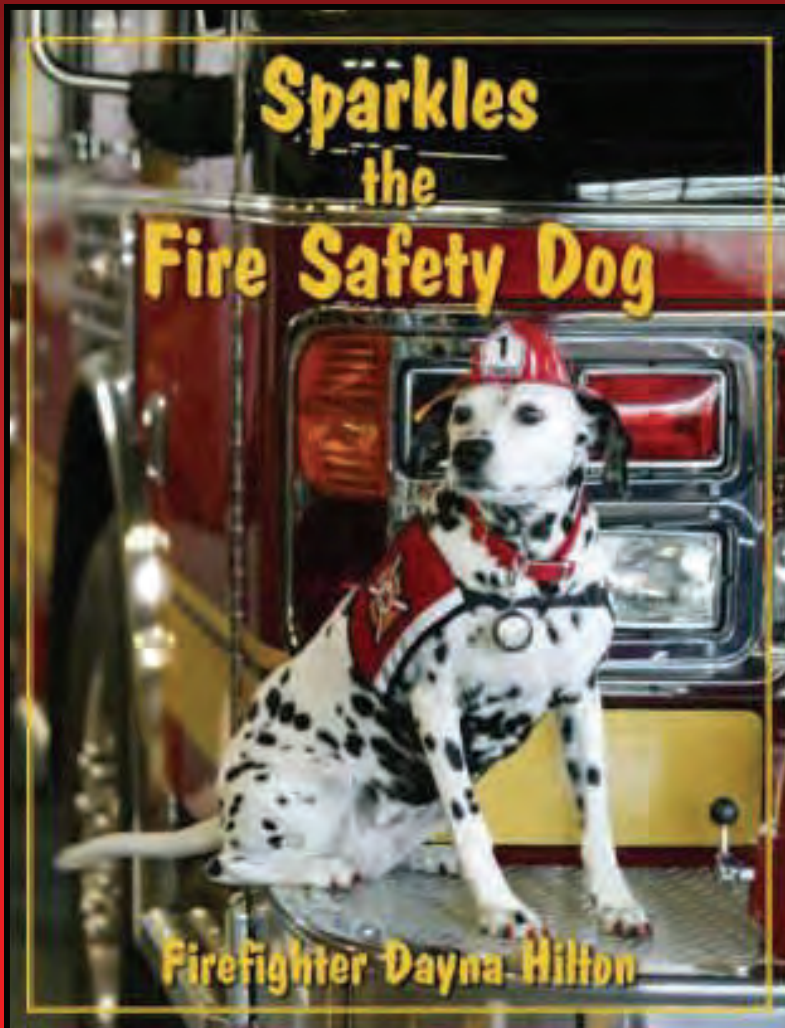
Hilton has been awarded numerous national awards for her fire safety efforts, including the 2009 *National Fire Protection Association's Educator of the Year Award*, the 2006 *National Volunteer Fire Council's Fire Prevention Award* and the 2009 *Alpha Xi Delta Woman of Distinction Award*. Hilton was recognized as a *Dunkin' Brands Community Foundation Hero* in July 2007.

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# ***Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog*** **Fact Sheet**



**Genre:** Children's Picture Book

*Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog*  
Children's Book

ISBN: 978-0-9814977-0-9,

Cover Price \$4.99

Available at: [keepkidsfiresafe.org](http://keepkidsfiresafe.org),  
[Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com), [Target.com](http://Target.com)

*Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog*  
Audio Book

ISBN: 978-0-9814977-1-6

Cover Price \$5.99

Available at:

[Firehousedogpublishing.com](http://Firehousedogpublishing.com)

**Two children from two families knew what to do in a fire and attribute their actions to what they learned from *Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog*.**

Inspired by her work as a firefighter and her four-legged friend, Sparkles, author Firefighter Dayna Hilton created a heart-warming story about Sparkles.

As children learn of the adventures of Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog, they learn valuable fire safety tips enabling them and their families to help keep fire safe. These tips include recognizing the firefighter as a helper and a friend, knowing the sound and purpose of a smoke alarm, learning how to crawl low under smoke, and understanding the importance of practicing a home fire drill using an escape map. *Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog* is not only fun, but educationally sound and based on the latest fire safety research for young children.

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# Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog Book Reviews

"Sparkles the Dalmatian has her paw on the pulse of fire safety as she helps teach children how to prevent and escape a house fire."

**Michael Tercha, Chicago Tribune webpage**

"Two paws up and a tail wag for *Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog!*"

**Jenni Glenn, PBS KIDS Sprout**

"Dayna Hilton is providing an invaluable service that is as kid safe as it is kid friendly. Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog is charming on paper or read aloud and an excellent tool in furthering the hugely important crusade of children's fire safety."

**Alan Brunacini, Retired Phoenix Fire Chief**

"This is a wonderful learning tool for children! *Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog* literally is a brilliant quick and easy read for children. Not only will they learn the importance of fire safety, but also by using the beautiful Dalmatian dog in colorful pictures throughout the book, it almost guarantees this becoming a child's favorite book to read and re-read all the while re-learning the importance of fire safety.

Reading gives children skills in handling complex thoughts, ideas and teachings. *DogSport Magazine* recommends every classroom investing in bringing this book into elementary schools to help in teaching fire safety."

***DogSport Magazine***

"It's so AWESOME!"

**Steven Peltier, age 5**

"Children love reading the same books over and over. A fire safety book is one way to provide the repetition needed for young children to master home fire safety messages. Firefighter Dayna, Firefighter Michael, and Sparkles give us a book to enjoy while we learn!"

**Nancy Trench, Oklahoma State University, Fire Protection Publications/IFSTA**

"Written by firefighter Dayna Hilton, *Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog* is a wonderful, flat-spined children's picture book about the basics of fire safety - as taught with assistance from Sparkles, a friendly female dalmatian. Illustrated with full-color photographs of the real Sparkles and her friends on virtually every page, *Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog* tells young readers what to do if they hear the noise from a smoke alarm: "In case of fire, be sure to crawl low under the smoke on your hands and knees. The air is cleaner and cooler there. Get low and go to your outside meeting place." A great way for parents to introduce their children to doing fire drills, especially sure to appeal to young dog lovers." **The Midwest Book Review / Children's Bookwatch (Reviewer's Choice Review)**

"My 3 year old daughter loves this book and CD. In a matter of 2 readings, she knows the theme song, what a smoke alarm does, and how to stay low and go like Sparkles!" **Lesa, a mom and former firefighter-10 yrs**

"Each night that we have read *Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog*, Cole continues to tell ME how HE will get out of the house in case of fire." **Carrie, mother of Cole, age 3**



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# Author Dayna Hilton

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### Q. Tell us about yourself.

A. I am a firefighter, fire safety educator, author of children's fire safety books and Executive Director of the Keep Kids Fire Safe Foundation. My Dalmatians, Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog, Spanner and Tango, assist with helping me teach fire safety. You can pretty much say that I live and breathe fire safety education and it is my sincere hope to help keep everyone fire safe.

In 2000, I joined the fire service. I became interested in fire safety education after attending a class at the National Fire Academy (NFA) in Emmitsburg, Maryland. It was at that time that I realized that my state (Arkansas) ranked seventh in the nation in fire-related deaths and injuries. While at NFA, I vowed to do whatever I could to help change those unfortunate statistics. Since then, I have made it my goal in life to help keep children and their caregivers fire safe throughout the United States.

The opportunity at the National Fire Academy opened my eyes and provided the foundation for everything that I am and do today. I am forever grateful to the academy, to my fire department, my Fire Chief, the firefighters on my department and to my mentor, Emily McGlaughlin, for helping make me the fire safety educator that I am today.

#### Q. What are the fire safety tips included in the book?

A. The fire safety tips include: (1) Recognizing the firefighter as a helper and a friend, (2) Knowing the sound and purpose of a smoke alarm, (3) Learning how to crawl low under smoke, and (4) Understanding the importance of practicing a home fire drill using an escape map. These are very critical fire safety messages for young children and their families to know and understand.



**Award-winning, critically acclaimed children's author, Firefighter Dayna Hilton**

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## Author Dayna Hilton Frequently Asked Questions

**Q. You produced a *Sparkles the Fire Dog* audio book that accompanies the book and features three generations of firefighters. What can you tell us about it?**

A. The audio book is a perfect complement to the book and is designed to help children learn to read in addition to learning how to stay fire safe. One of the most popular audio book features is the bonus, "Sparkles' Theme Song." Children love hearing this song again and again. Three generations of firefighters worked on the audio book project including: my dad, Glenn Trembley, my son Michael, and me. Michael engineered the audio book and composed "Sparkles Theme Song."

**Q. You recently learned that two children who were at one of your book readings and watched your fire safety presentation helped save their two families during a real life fire situation. Tell us more.**

A. In November 2008, Sparkles and I went to Tulsa, Oklahoma to read our book and make a fire safety presentation for almost 450 students at Celia Clinton Elementary. Each child that day was given a copy of my book, *Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog*, courtesy of the Tulsa Rotary Club. Subsequently, I have learned that two children in the audience that day were involved in fire situations. Separately, both children volunteered that they knew what to do to get their families out of their homes because of what "Sparkles taught them." Indeed, Sparkles has made a significant impact on the lives of these two young children and their families through her fire safety demonstrations and the book. Not a day goes by that I don't think of these two young children and the positive impact Sparkles has made in their lives. To learn more, you may visit Sparkles' website at [www.sparklesthefiresafetydog.com/saves](http://www.sparklesthefiresafetydog.com/saves).

**Q. It must have been an amazing feeling when you found out that your book helped save lives.**

A. The day that I received the phone call from Principal Davis is a day that I will never forget as long as I live. Since that day, Sparkles and I have made a trip back to Celia Clinton Elementary to meet the children and their families. It was truly amazing to hear the children's stories of how they were able to get their families out safely. Sparkles and I are both thankful that they are safe.

**Q. Your book helps the Keep Kids Fire Safe Foundation, a foundation dedicated to helping provide fire safety materials at no cost to fire departments and other organizations. How does the book assist the foundation with its efforts?**

A. Profits from the sale of the *Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog* book and audio book are donated to the foundation.

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## Author Dayna Hilton Frequently Asked Questions

**Q. The two of you have several websites and blogs with the distinct purpose of helping keep children and their caregivers fire safe. What are they like?**

A. The web provides a valuable avenue to share fire safety messages and tips. Our blogs and websites are interactive and include fire safety tips, activity sheets, videos and more. You may also find Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog on Facebook.

**Q. What are the sites?**

A. [www.sparklesthefiresafetydog.com](http://www.sparklesthefiresafetydog.com)  
[www.firefighterdayna.com](http://www.firefighterdayna.com)  
[www.sparklesthefiresafetydog.blogspot.com](http://www.sparklesthefiresafetydog.blogspot.com)  
[www.childrensbookauthordaynahilton.blogspot.com](http://www.childrensbookauthordaynahilton.blogspot.com)  
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Sparkles-the-Fire-Safety-Dog/58302653884?ref=mf>



**Author Firefighter Dayna Hilton, along with Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog and Angelica, age 5. Angelica knew what to do in an actual fire-related situation because of what she learned from Sparkles and the children's fire safety book, *Sparkles the Fire Safety Dog*.**

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