

Guide to the Cub Scout Home Safety Badge

A resource to support Cub Scouting Cubs complete the Home Safety Badge sponsored by National Grid

LEADER'S INFORMATION

This pack is designed to help Cub Scouts gain the Home Safety Badge. Activities can be undertaken both at home and in the Cub Pack. Each activity has a page consisting of information on safety relating to the activity and a task to perform.

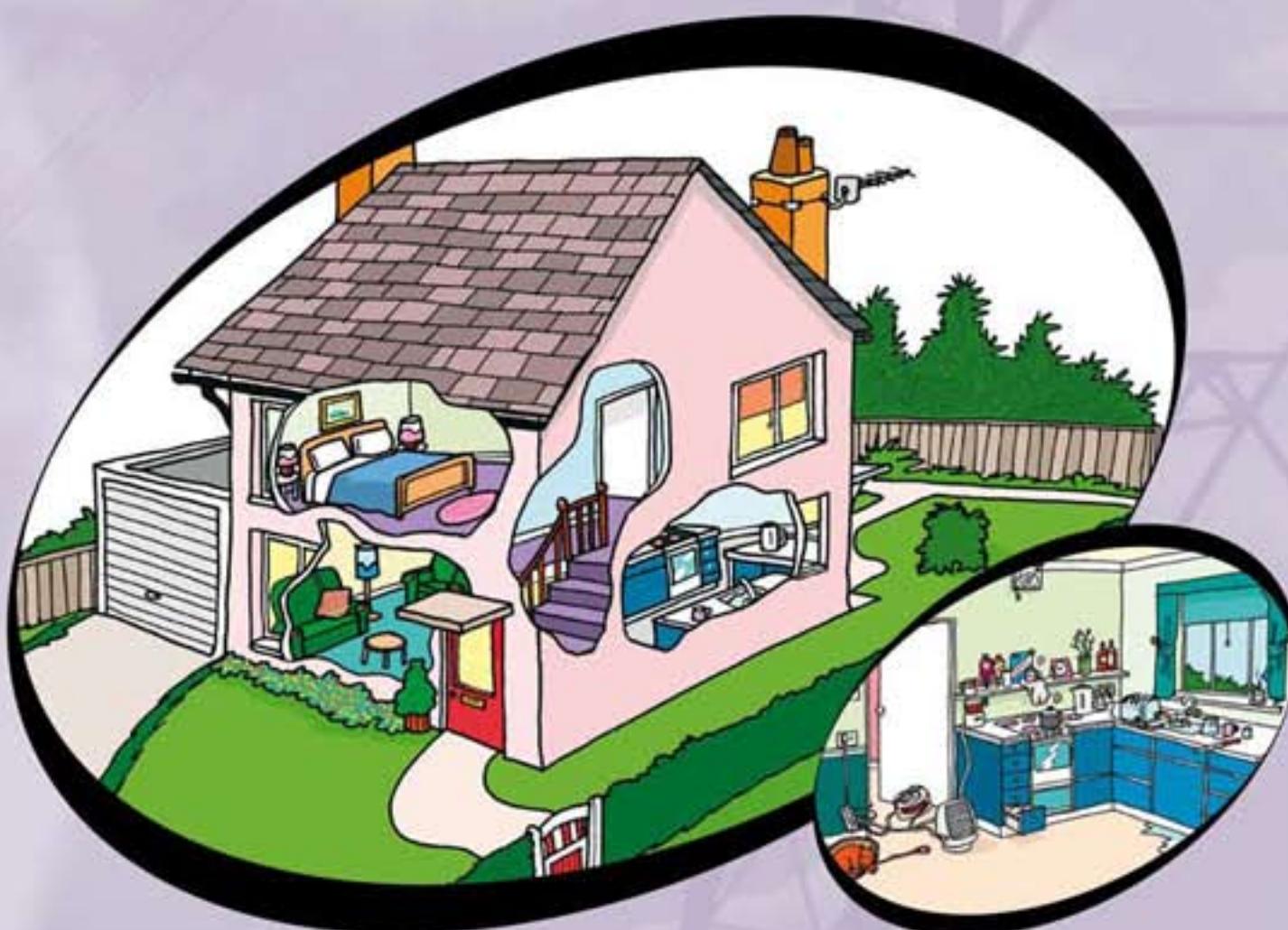
HOW IT WORKS

There are six activities to be completed to get the Home Safety Badge. Each activity has a page of information and a related task(s). These tasks include finding out information, spotting the errors, and a word search. When the tasks have been completed a certificate will be awarded.



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Gain the Home Safety Badge and find out:

- What to do if you have a water leak, gas escape or loss of power in your home
- What to do if you smell gas
- What to do if fire breaks out in your home
- The main causes of accidents in the home
- How to keep your house free from crime
- How to make an emergency call
- The main emergency contact numbers



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Activity 1

What should you do if you have a water leak, gas escape or loss of electrical power in your home?

Match the letter (A, B, C and D) to the location on the map.

Water

Turn off the stopcock (this looks like a tap which shuts off the water supply to the house). This is normally found under the sink in the kitchen, but it could also be in the bathroom or under the stairs.

A water leak could affect the electricity supply to your home. If this is the case switch the power off at the fuse box. If you have a leak to your service pipe call your water supplier. If you have a water leak inside your home you may need to call a plumber.

Loss of power

Check the trip switch and fuse box as the power failure may be just in your home and you may have just blown or tripped a fuse. Check to see if anyone else in your street has lost power. If they have also had a power cut call your electricity supplier – the people who own the wires that go into your house. (They may not be the people who send you your electricity bill, but their contact number can be found on your bill).

Always keep a fully charged torch in a convenient place and keep a spare set of batteries with it. Leave a light switch turned on so you know when the power has been restored.

Switch off or unplug electrical appliances and keep use of fridges and freezers to a minimum. Check that food has not thawed when your power is restored.

Q Your trip switch will normally form part of your fuse box. The fuse box and gas meter could be located in this room, the garage or even in a meter box which could be on the outside wall of the house.

If you have an outside box and it's kept locked do you know where the key is kept?



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Activity 3

What would you do if fire breaks out in your home?



Would you and your family be able to escape?

(Do you have an escape plan for everyone in your home? Find the best way out of your home – it could be through the front door. Think of an alternative route. Practice your plan.

Write or draw your escape plan here:

Make sure:

- you keep your way out clear of obstructions
- you know where your door and window keys are kept
- you have smoke alarms and that they work
- in some circumstances your local Fire Service will provide and fit a smoke alarm – they will also do home fire safety checks

Raise the alarm – DON'T look for the fire. If the fire starts at night raise the alarm and shout to wake everyone up. Follow your plan and get out. Check doors with the back of your hand before opening – if warm, DO NOT OPEN – go another way. If there is a lot of smoke, crawl along the floor where the air will be clearer.

Once outside, call the Fire Service on 999 from a phone box or a neighbour's house. If using a mobile call 112.

Activity 4

Keep your house free from crime



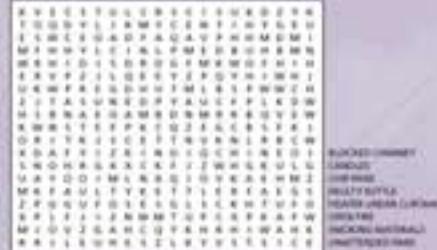
Don't invite a burglary – don't leave:

- gates or windows open
- ladders left out – they can be used to gain access to upstairs windows
- garden tools such as forks and spades out as they can be used to force entry
- don't leave milk bottles or parcels on the doorstep
- newspapers and mail in the letter box
- spare key hidden anywhere near the front door (thieves/burglars know where to look)
- try to bring valuables out of sight
- if going out after dark, draw the curtains, leave some lights on and a radio playing

If your way out is blocked

Get everyone into one room. Close the door and put bedding or towels along the bottom to seal the gap under the door. Open a window for fresh air. Phone the Fire Service or shout for help. You may be able to escape through the window. Throw some bedding, clothing or soft furnishings out. Where possible, do not jump – lower yourself carefully.

Q. Find eight fire hazards in this word search:



Do you have a bedtime fire safety routine to help you and your family keep safe?

- Make sure all smoking materials are put out including candles
- Never smoke in bed and before emptying ashtrays make sure the contents are cold; turn off all electrical items not designed to stay on all night, including portable heaters
- Don't leave TVs and other electrical items on standby
- Shut the doors

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What will you do to keep your home safe when on holiday?

Write down your suggestions here e.g. caravans etc.

Activity 5

Emergency numbers

Keep a list of emergency numbers by the telephone. Create your own list which could include the following:

- Police/ambulance if calling from a land line
- Police/ambulance if call from a mobile
- Telephone numbers of family members
- Address of local police station
- Doctor's telephone number
- Dentist
- Vet
- Plumber
- Electrician
- Report a gas escape
- Report a power loss
- Report a water leak

Activity 2

What do you do if you smell gas?

You will have also received a leaflet advising you what to do if you smell gas.

Carbon monoxide is a silent killer.

It can be caused by faulty or poorly maintained gas equipment and is the result of gas not burning properly.

You cannot see, smell or taste it.

All gas appliances should be safety checked at least once a year. Ask an adult to make sure your gas appliances are checked properly by a CORGI registered engineer. If you need to find a local CORGI registered engineer telephone 0800 401 2300 or log on to www.landline.org.uk

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Activity 6

Causes of accidents in the home

Can you circle the mistakes in the room that could cause an accident?



What else can you think of that would cause an accident in the home?

Write down your ideas here:

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Activity 7

How to make an emergency call



To call the emergency services (fire, police or ambulance) you need to know that you dial 999 from a home phone or call box, but you dial 112 from a mobile.

If you cannot ring from home have a plan:

1. Can you ring from a neighbour's house? Pick which one that will be near – don't wait until you need to make the call.
2. If you cannot call from home or a neighbour's house you can use a public telephone box. Where is your nearest one?
3. If you are calling from a phone box and you do not know where you are there will be a location given in the phone box which you can quote.
4. Remember if you are reporting the smell of gas the national gas emergency number is 0800 111 999.

Draw a map showing the way to your nearest alternative telephone box (this could be a neighbour's house or a telephone box). If it is a telephone box include the name of the road it is on.

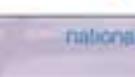
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Activity 8

Can you match the signs and their meanings?

What is electricity?

- When you turn on your TV, watch a DVD, dry your hair with a hairdryer, play a computer game or turn on the light in your bedroom, you are using electricity. You can't see it or smell it, but I bet you can't imagine life without it!
- Electricity is moved around the country on overhead wires attached to pylons, as well as through underground cables. Every now and again the pylons, wires and cables need to be fixed or changed.
- Always remember that electricity and the work that goes on around pylons can be very dangerous. Never play on or try to climb a pylon. Always stay out of work areas. You could get hurt or even killed!



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