

# Burglary Free

## Years 7-8

## Focus area 1

This section contains one of the following Focus areas from the **Burglary-Free** programme, aimed at years 7-8 (ages 11-12):

1. **Burglary in our community**
2. Partnerships
3. Kids' Watch

Note: An effective programme should include learning experiences from each of the focus areas.

## Focus area 1: Burglary in our community

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## Focus area 1: Burglary in our community

### Explanation

In this Focus area students define the term **burglary** and find answers to questions relating to burglary. They identify burglary trends for their local area. They produce material on burglary to share with families and community.

### Key messages

- Burglary is a crime against people and property.
- Burglary occurs anywhere.

### Success criteria

Students will:

- be able to define burglary
- be able to describe burglary as it happens in their community.
- be able to describe the reasons for burglary and its effects.

### Curriculum links

**Key competencies:** Managing self; Participating and contributing; Relating to others.

**Learning areas:**

Level 3 and level 4 Health and Physical Education – Strand A: Safety management; Strand C: Interpersonal skills; Strand D: Rights, responsibilities, and laws

Level 3 and level 4 English – Purposes and audience

Level 3 and level 4 Social Sciences – Events, causes and effects

Level 3 and level 4 Mathematics and Statistics – Statistical literacy.

### Resources

School Community Officer or community constable

Safer Community Officer from local council

Newspaper articles brought by teacher and students

Dictionaries

Local burglary statistics

### Notes for the teacher

Before teaching this Focus area, teachers can use the following preparatory activities:

- Have students email, fax or phone the School Community Officer at the police station to ask for burglary statistics for their community, and invite them to take part in the focus areas.
- Collect (both students and teacher) local newspaper or magazine articles about burglary.
- Contact a Safer Community Officer in the local territorial authority (council) and invite them to take part in the focus area.

## Learning experience 1: Finding out about burglary

### Activities

Students work in small groups for this activity. Ask each group to brainstorm the following questions.

- Ask:
- What is burglary?
  - Where does it take place?
  - Who commits burglary?
  - When does it happen?
  - Why does it happen?
  - How does it affect the victims, neighbours, and the wider community?

Each group reports back. The police officer and council Safer Community Officer, if present, comment on the findings and add any other relevant comments. The legal definition of burglary could be given:

Burglary is when a person:

**either** enters a building etc without authority with intent to commit an offence in the building

**or** remains in a building etc without authority with intent to commit an offence in the building.

Allow time for questions from students.

Give each group a selection of newspaper articles. Students use these to gather information to support their findings in answer to the questions above.

## Learning experience 2: What the statistics say

### Activities

The School Community Officer may present statistics for burglary in the local area and discuss these. If desired, figures could be given for the last three years so that trends could be looked at. Students may like to share any personal experiences of burglary that they know about.

Students graph these figures and make summary statements.

## Learning experience 3: Sharing the findings

### Activities

Students could do one or both of the following:

- Write a newspaper article about local burglary trends.
- Prepare a slide show on the computer with the answers to the questions in Learning experience 1. This could be presented at a staff meeting, board meeting, or parent meeting.