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Community Crime Prevention Institute
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Martin O'Malley, Governor
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Maryland Crime Watch

The Crime Prevention Activity Book

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The Crime Prevention Activity Book

1979 The Advertising Council, Inc.

Maryland Crime Watch

We encourage photocopying or reprinting this booklet. Camera ready materials may be borrowed from Maryland Crime Watch.

Maryland Correctional Enterprises

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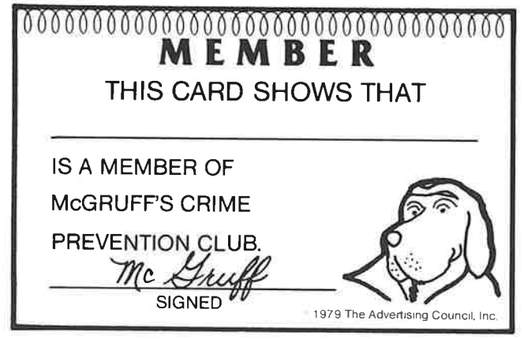
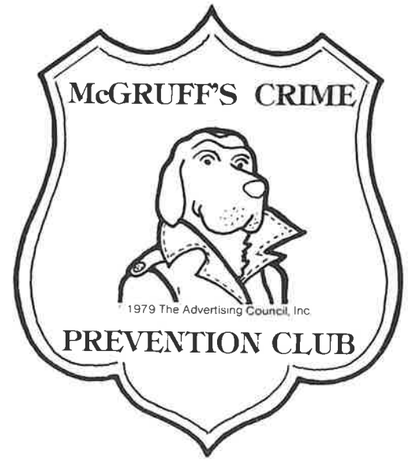
Hi,
My name is McGruff. I am a crime fighting dog. I am going to show you some safety tips which will help you practice crime prevention.

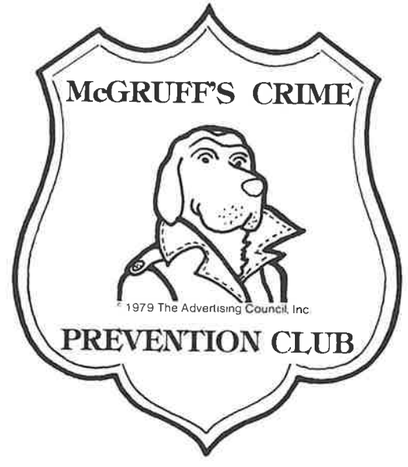
A crime is something a person does that hurts you or someone else and is against the law. Crime prevention is stopping a crime before it happens.

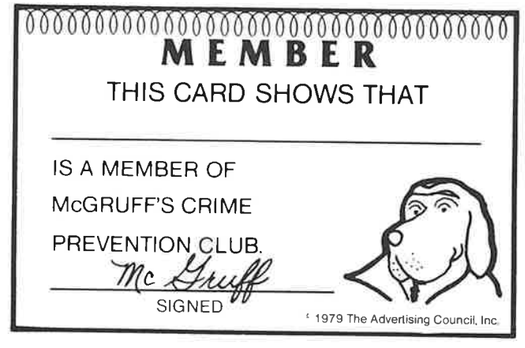
Each page in the book will teach you something about how to protect yourselves and your home. You and your family can learn together by becoming a crime prevention team. Do the activities and follow the tips and you will have a safer place in which to live and play.

KEEP THIS BOOK IN A SAFE PLACE.









Now that you've done the activities in this book, you can become a member of my crime prevention club. Write your name on one of the cards and cut out the badge for your shirt or coat. You can paste it on cardboard to make it stronger. Ask mom or dad to help. You can tell a friend about the activities, too. Make your friend a member of the club.

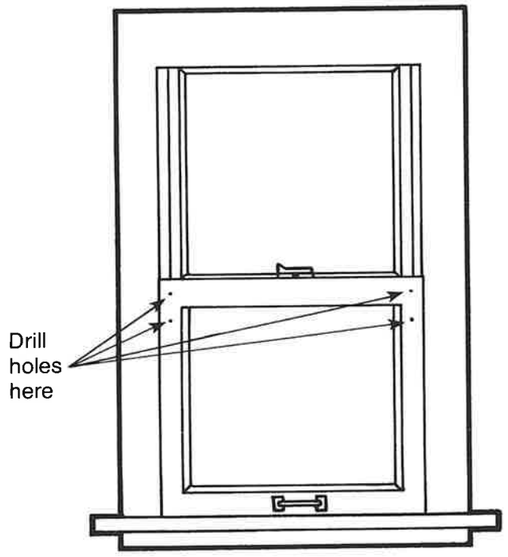
Thanks for being a good crime prevention officer. You've really helped to "TAKE A BITE OUT OF CRIME" in your neighborhood.

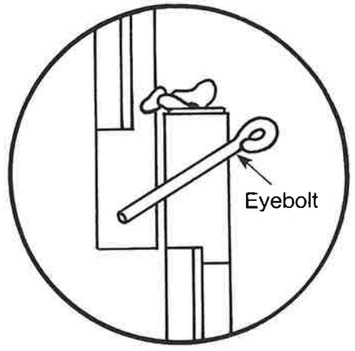
Mc Gruff

Windows

The latches which come with most windows are very easy to pry open. Here is a project which you and your parents can do to secure the windows in your house.

Have your parents drill a small hole on each side of the window. The hole should be drilled at a downward angle through the top frame of the bottom window and partially into the frame of the upper window. Then you can slip a large nail or eyebolt in each hole. The window can't be opened until you remove the nails or eyebolts. It is a good idea to make a second set of holes with the windows partly open. This will allow fresh air to enter, but not burglars.





It is important to call the police or sheriff in an emergency or when you see something that could be a crime.

In many areas of the State, you can dial 911 to call for help in an emergency. Ask your parents about this. If you cannot use 911 in your area, have your parents help you find the phone number for the police or sheriff. Now, write the phone number for the police or sheriff in the box below. Remember to write 911 if that is the emergency number for your area. Cut the box out and tape it to the side of your telephone. This way you will always have the number handy when you need it.

Practice saying the number until you remember it. Then you will have it handy in your memory, too.

POLICE OR SHERIFF

_ _ _ - _ _ _ _

Make more phone stickers if you need them.

POLICE OR SHERIFF

_ _ _ - _ _ _ _

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Protecting yourself...

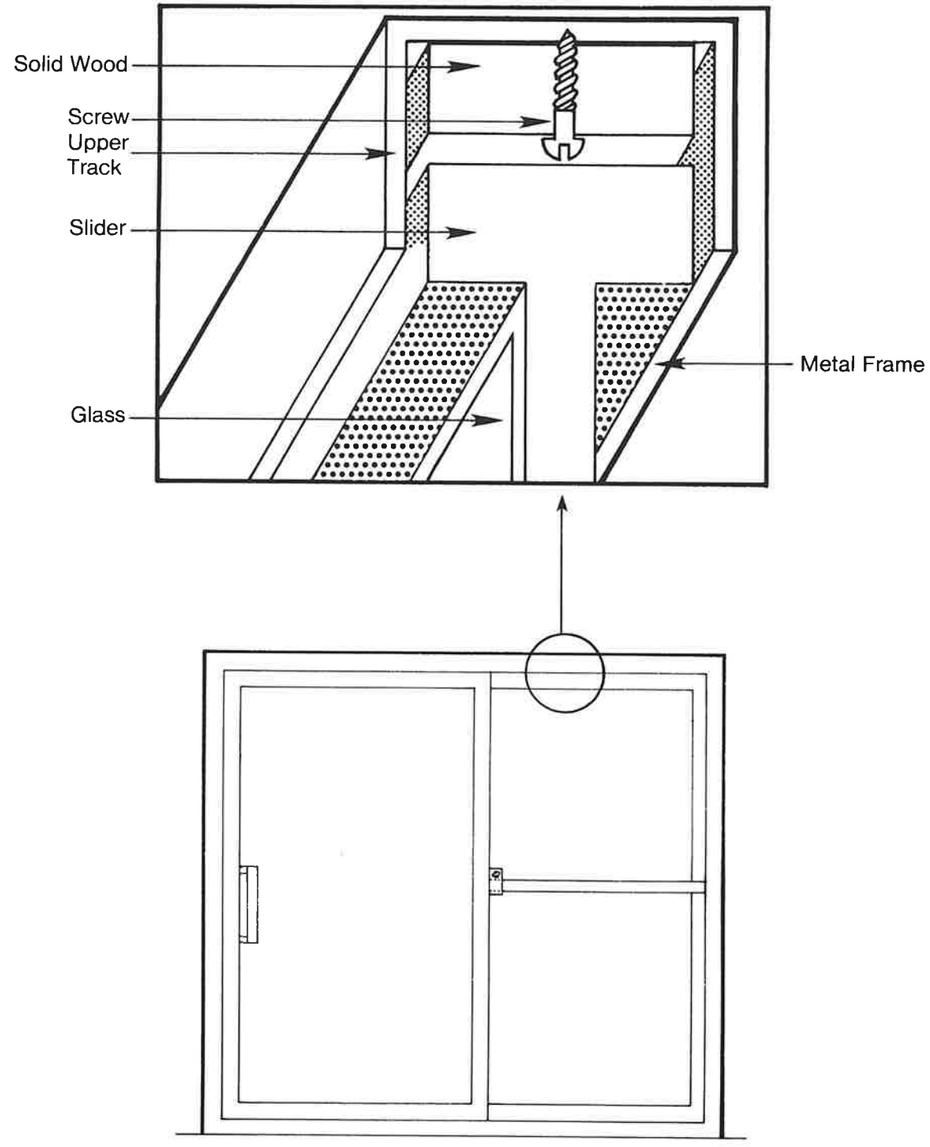
Sometimes we come into contact with people who want to harm us or take something which belongs to us.

Sometimes people pretend to want to help us. It confuses us because we want to believe everyone.

Here are some important tips to help keep us safe:

1. Always let your folks know where you are.
2. Always try to play or walk with friends.
3. Say NO if a stranger offers you gifts or asks you to help find something, like a lost dog.
4. If anyone - even someone you know - tries to do something that makes you feel "funny" or unsafe, say **NO.** And always tell someone you trust about it, like your folks or teacher.
5. Never get into a car with a stranger or with someone you don't trust.
6. Never go anywhere with a stranger or with anyone you don't trust.
7. Never believe a stranger until you have checked what he said with someone you trust.
8. Never open the door to a stranger or to someone you don't trust.
9. Never give any information to a stranger over the telephone.

Tell your parents to screw a wood or metal bar inside the upper track of the sliding glass door. Now you can slide the door open, but no one can lift the door out of its track.

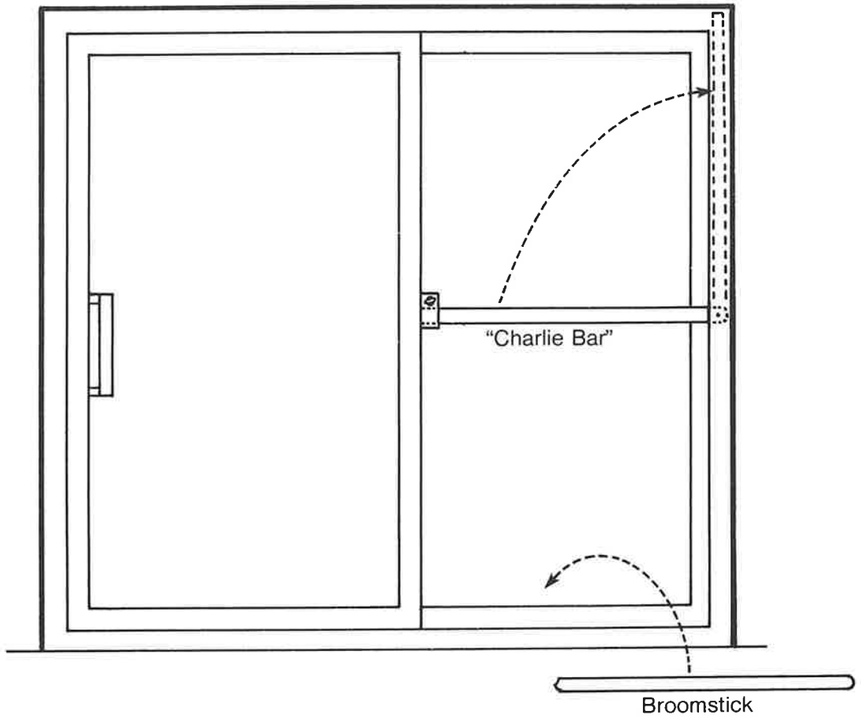


CHILD-PARENT CRIME PREVENTION ACTIVITIES

Sliding Glass Doors

Many burglars enter homes through sliding glass doors. There are several things that can be done to make your sliding doors safe.

Your mom or dad can buy a special metal bar (sometimes called a "Charlie Bar") that hooks on to the door and folds down to stop the door from opening. This helps to block the door if the lock should be broken. (A wooden broomstick in the bottom track may be used until the "Charlie Bar" is installed.)



Here is a list of words which are very important to remember when we talk about protecting yourself. Read each word aloud.

ALERT	FRIEND	NEIGHBOR	PREVENTION	SHERIFF
CALL	LOCK	PARENT	PROTECT	TELEPHONE
CRIME	MARK	PEEPHOLE	SAFE	TELL
ENGRAVER	McGRUFF	POLICE	SAY-NO	UNLOADED

Do you know why these words are important?

McGruff has hidden each of these words in the puzzle below. See how many of the words you can find and draw a circle around each one.

	L	Q	C	O	F	R	I	E	N	D
	N	E	I	G	H	B	O	R	W	
		F	B				E			
	G			R		V				
	H		C		A		F			P
	M	C	G	R	U	F	F	P	A	D
		A	G		I			R	P	E
		N	R	R		M	E	E		D
	E		E	K	E	N	E	V		A
		H		F	T	P	K	E		O
	S		A		H	C		N		L
	T	S		O	O	C	K	T		N
	C	A	L	L		N	R	I	T	U
	E	E		S			P	O	R	
	T	E	L	E	P	H	O	N	E	
	O		L	P	F	U	L	E	L	
	R		E				I		A	
	P		T		D	U	C			
				S	A	F	E			
					K					
			O	N	-	Y	A	S		

Some other crime prevention words are hidden, too. Can you find them?

See page 22 for the answers to the puzzle.

Protecting your home...

Often people are hurt or their belongings are taken because they do not protect themselves in their home.

The most important thing that you and your family can do to make your home a safe place to be is to have good door and window locks and USE THEM.

Your police or sheriff can help your parents decide which locks are best for your house. Ask your parents to call the police or sheriff to find out.

There are other projects which you and your parents can work on to make your doors and windows more secure. These projects are in the back of this book in the parents section. Show this section to your parents and help them with these projects.

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Child/Parent Home Security Checklist

Check the safety of your home with your parents using this list. As you do this, you can help your parents by sharing with them the crime prevention information you have learned in this book.

DOORS

	YES	NO
1. Are your outside doors either solid wood or metal doors?	☐	☐
2. Are the locks on your outside doors deadbolts with a one inch throw?	☐	☐
3. If you have double or French doors, is the inactive door secured with concealed flush mounted header and threshold bolts?	☐	☐
4. Are your locks all in good repair?	☐	☐
5. Have you secured your windows by pinning them or installed auxiliary locks? (See page 26 for pinning.)	☐	☐

WINDOWS

	YES	NO
6. Are you as careful of basement and second floor windows as you are of those on the first floor?	☐	☐
7. Have you made it more difficult for the burglar by locking up your ladder, avoiding trellises that can be used as a ladder or similar aids to climbing?	☐	☐

GARAGE

	YES	NO
8. Did you lock your garage door?	☐	☐
9. Do you have good secure locks on the garage doors and windows?	☐	☐
10. Do you lock your car and take the keys out even when it is parked in your garage?	☐	☐

WHEN YOU GO ON A TRIP

	YES	NO
11. Do you arrange for neighbors to pick up papers, mail and packages?	☐	☐
12. Do you notify a neighbor where you can be contacted in an emergency?	☐	☐
13. Do you use timers on your lights?	☐	☐
14. Do you arrange for someone to keep your lawn and garden in shape?	☐	☐

HANDGUN SAFETY

	YES	NO
15. Are all the real guns **unloaded** and **locked** in a safe place?	☐	☐
16. Does your child know the difference between real and toy guns?	☐	☐
17. Does your child know what to do if he/she finds or sees a friend with a real gun?	☐	☐

SAFE PRACTICES

	YES	NO
18. Do you keep large amounts of cash and other valuables in a bank?	☐	☐
19. Do you keep a list of all your valuables such as tools, cameras, typewriters, televisions and similar items? (Include serial numbers.)	☐	☐
20. Have you engraved your valuables with your drivers license number followed by the letters MD?	☐	☐
21. Do you avoid unnecessary display or mention of your valuables?	☐	☐
22. Have you told your family what to do if they discover a burglar breaking in or already in the house?	☐	☐
23. Have you told your family to leave the house undisturbed and call the police or sheriff if they discover a burglary has been committed?	☐	☐
24. Have you had the police or sheriff's department conduct a security survey of your home?	☐	☐

NOTE TO PARENTS: Every "no" check mark shows a weak security point in the home. Tips on how to correcto some security weaknesses are illustrated on the following pages of this book. For additional assistance, call your police or sheriff.

The Home Security Check List is designed to involve the child and parent in determining the relative security of their home. Law enforcement officers alone cannot control crime. Citizens have a major responsibility for helping prevent crime. Children and parents can help by insuring that they properly secure their homes and personal property. Since most crimes committed are property crimes, use of the home security check list is an important factor.

For further information concerning crime prevention measures, or a free home security survey, call your police or sheriff's department or the Maryland Crime Watch Program at 442-2706.

ANSWERS TO MATCH GAME ON PAGE 11

1. B 2. C 3. D 4. A

ANSWERS TO WORD GAME ON PAGE 14

1. F(21) R(9) O(12) N(13) T(7) D(23) O(12) O(12) R(9) O(12) P(11) E(22) N(13) W(4) I(18) T(7) H(19) L(15) O(12) C(24) K(16) B(25) R(9) O(12) K(16) E(22) N(13).

2. D(23) O(12) W(4) N(13) S(8) T(7) A(26) I(18) R(9) S(8) W(4) I(18) N(13) D(23) O(12) W(4) B(25) R(9) O(12) K(16) E(22) N(13).

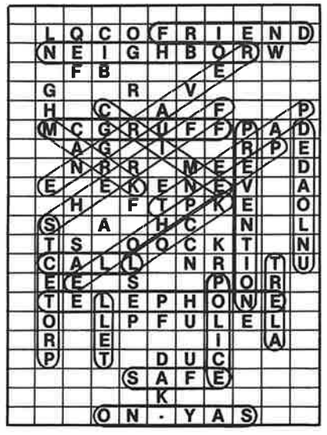
3. U(6) P(11) S(8) T(7) A(26) I(18) R(9) S(8) W(4) I(18) N(13) D(23) O(12) W(4) O(12) P(11) E(22) N(13) W(4) I(18) T(7) H(19) L(15) A(26) D(23) D(23) E(22) R(9) I(18) N(13) F(21) R(9) O(12) N(13) T(7) O(12) F(21) I(18) T(7).

4. T(7) V(5) O(12) N(13) L(15) A(26) W(4) N(13).

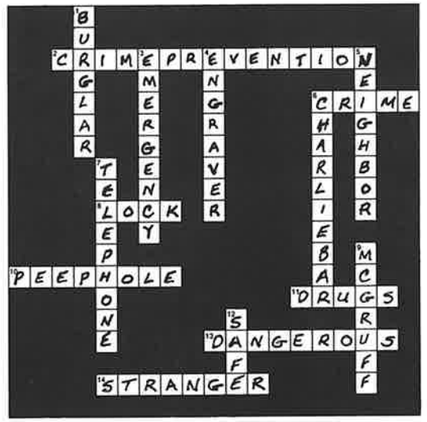
5. S(8) T(7) R(9) A(26) N(13) G(20) E(22) R(9) H(19) I(18) D(23) I(18) N(13) G(20) B(25) E(22) H(19) I(18) N(13) D(23) B(25) U(6) S(8) H(19).

6. S(8) T(7) R(9) A(26) N(13) G(20) E(22) T(7) R(9) U(6) C(24) K(16) I(18) N(13) D(23) R(9) I(18) V(5) E(22) W(4) A(26) Y(2).

ANSWERS TO PAGE 5

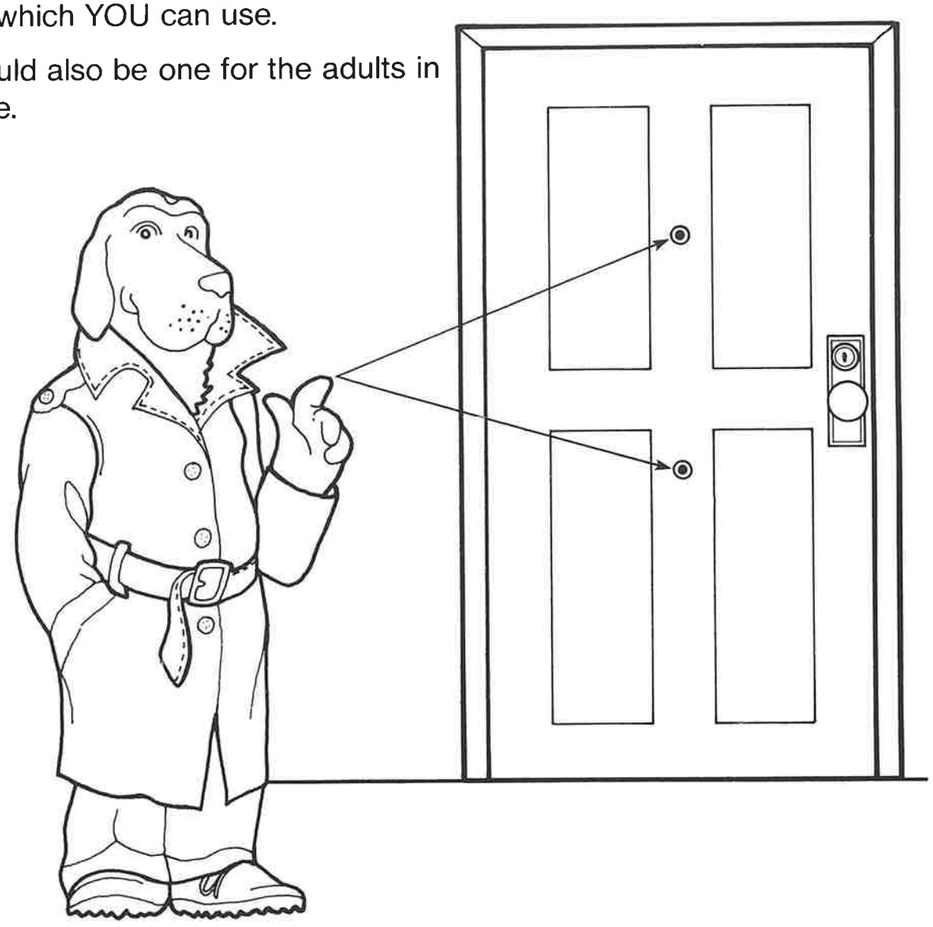


ANSWERS TO PUZZLE ON PAGE 21.



It is very important that your door have a peephole which YOU can use.

There should also be one for the adults in your house.



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Whenever someone comes to your door, look through the peephole to see who it is before opening the door.

NEVER OPEN THE DOOR UNLESS YOU KNOW THE PERSON WAITING OUTSIDE.

If you do not know the person, check with a parent or an adult who is taking care of you.

Protecting your belongings...

You should protect the things that are important to you and your parents. First list those things that are important to you. (Use another sheet of paper if you need to.)

_____ _____

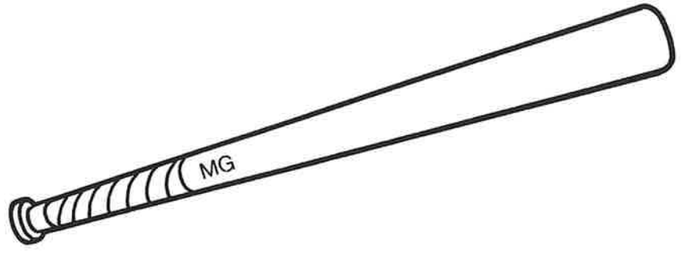
_____ _____

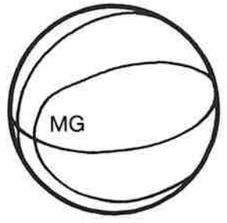
_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

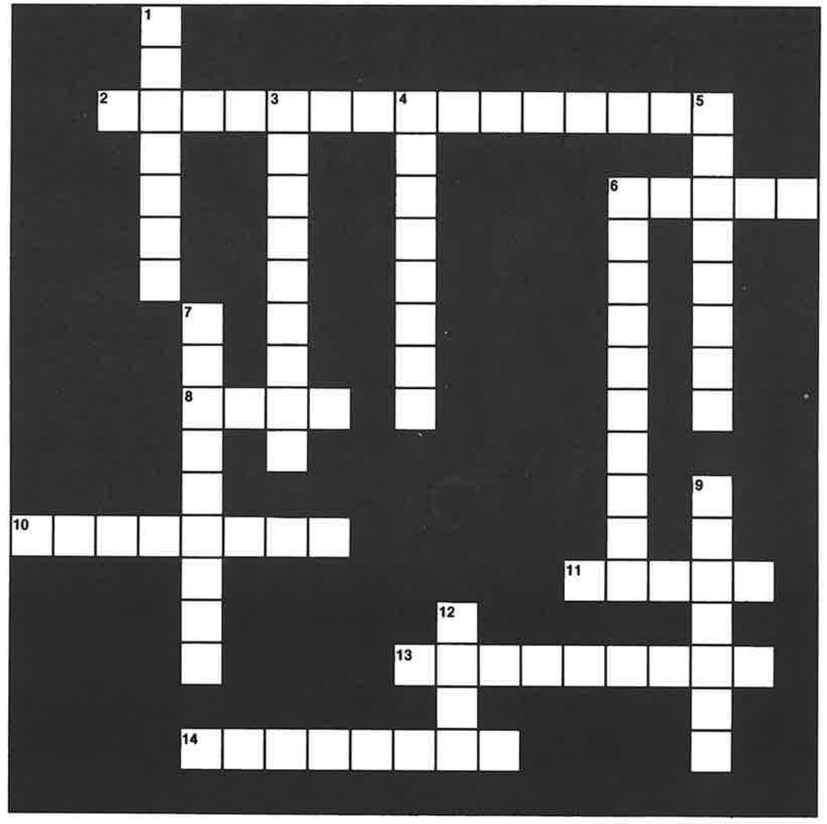
You should mark your belongings so that people will know they are yours. Use a marking pen to put your initials on things like your basketball, baseball bat, and games.





Now go to page 10 to find out how you and your parents should mark your more expensive belongings. (Such things as radios, bikes, cameras, electronic games, etc.)

CRIME PREVENTION PUZZLE



ACROSS

2. A practice to help stop a crime from happening _____.
6. Something that is against the law.
8. Remember to always _____ your doors.
10. Small opening in your door.
11. Pills or medicines you are not supposed to take.
13. Never touch guns because they are _____.
14. Never go anywhere with a _____.

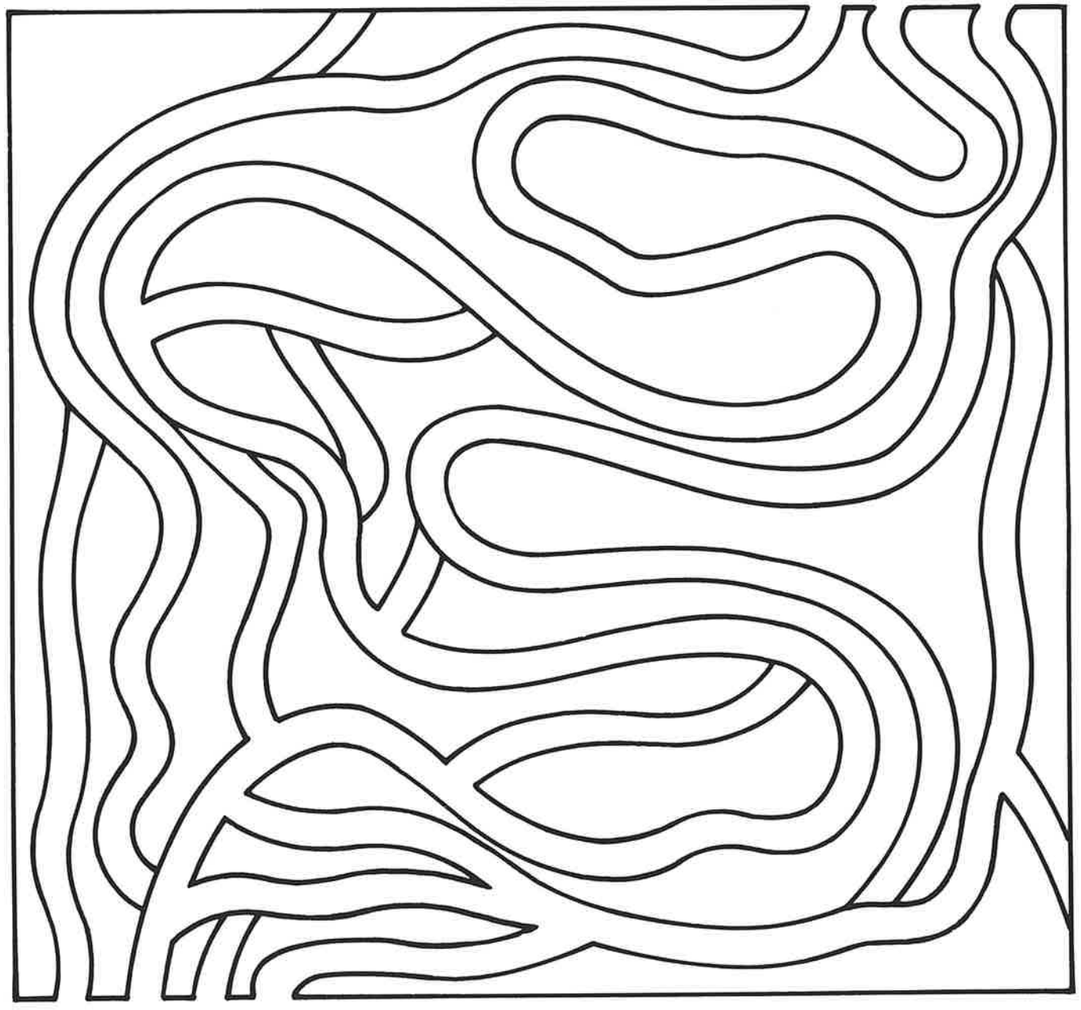
DOWN

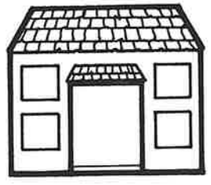
1. Someone who breaks into your home.
3. Dial 911 in case of an _____.
4. Tool used to mark valuables.
5. A person who can watch your home when you go on vacation.
6. Metal bar used to lock sliding glass doors.
7. Use this to call for help.
9. The crime fighting dog.
12. Good doors and locks make our homes _____.

Pretend McGruff's home has been broken into and you are calling the police or sheriff to report it.

The police or sheriff needs to get to McGruff's home as soon as possible. You can help by playing this game.

Without crossing any lines, use a red marking pen to mark the quickest route for the police or sheriff to take.





McGRUFF'S HOME

CUT OUT THIS PAGE

Ask your parents to help you list the things that are valuable to them. If there is a serial number or some other number on the item, be sure to include it on the list. Include the color, too.

Valuable item	Serial number	Color

MARYLAND CRIME WATCH

Once you and your parents have completed the activities on page 9 and 10, you can place a decal like this on your window or door.

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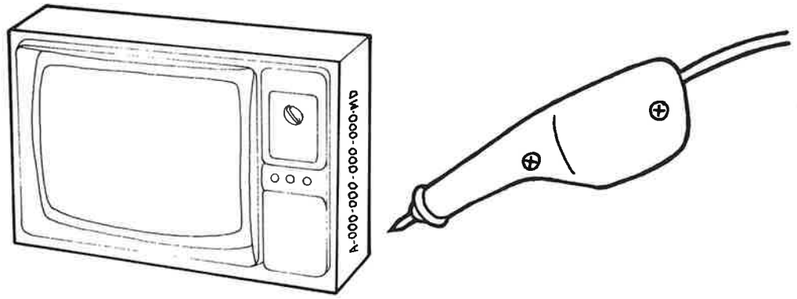
When you and your parents have listed their valuables, your parents should borrow a special tool, called an engraver, from the police or sheriff's department. Using the engraver, your parents should then mark the valuables they have listed with one of their driver's license numbers. The numbers should be followed by the letters MD (for Maryland).

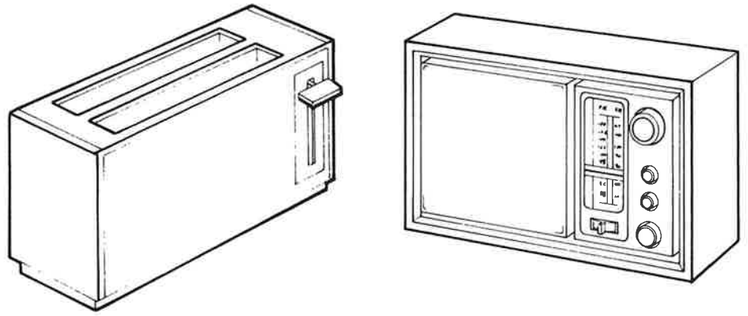


Copy one of your parents driver's license numbers here:

_____

(Did you remember to follow the number with the letters MD?)

Practice by writing the driver's license number on the two items shown below. (Were both of these things written on your parents' list of valuables?)



Now that your parents have listed their valuables and marked them, cut out this page. Give it to your parents to put in a safe place. The list should never be shown to anyone except the police or sheriff. Also, remember never to tell anyone about the valuable things in your house.

Thanks for helping the police and sheriff.

CUT OUT THIS PAGE

Protecting yourself against guns...

Did you know that a lot of boys and girls have been injured or killed lately by playing with real guns? Let's look at the differences between real guns and toy guns.

1. Real guns can hurt or kill people.
2. Real guns fire bullets.
3. Real guns make a loud noise.
4. Real guns are made out of metal.
5. Real guns are not toys.

Many toy guns look real and many real guns look like toys. If you see a gun, don't touch it, then tell your parents or your teacher.

Can you answer the following questions?

1. Should you ever play with real guns? _____

2. Is it O.K. to play with real guns if they are unloaded? _____

3. What should you do if some of your friends start playing with real guns?

_____

4. What should you do if you find a real gun? _____

Remember

If your parents have real guns at home, it is important for you to talk with them about gun safety rules.

Remember that real guns kill. It's not like T.V. where the actor pretends to get shot, then gets up again. In real life, once you're dead, you stay dead!

McGruff says, "Guns aren't kid stuff."

DO s

DO talk to your parents about gun safety.

DO treat all guns as if they are real.

DO treat all guns as if they are loaded.

DO know the difference between real guns and play guns.

DO tell your parents if you see anyone with a real gun.

DO remember that real guns kill!!!

DON'Ts

DON'T play with or touch real guns.

DON'T play with kids who play with real guns.

DON'T play with bullets.

DON'T forget that real guns kill!!!

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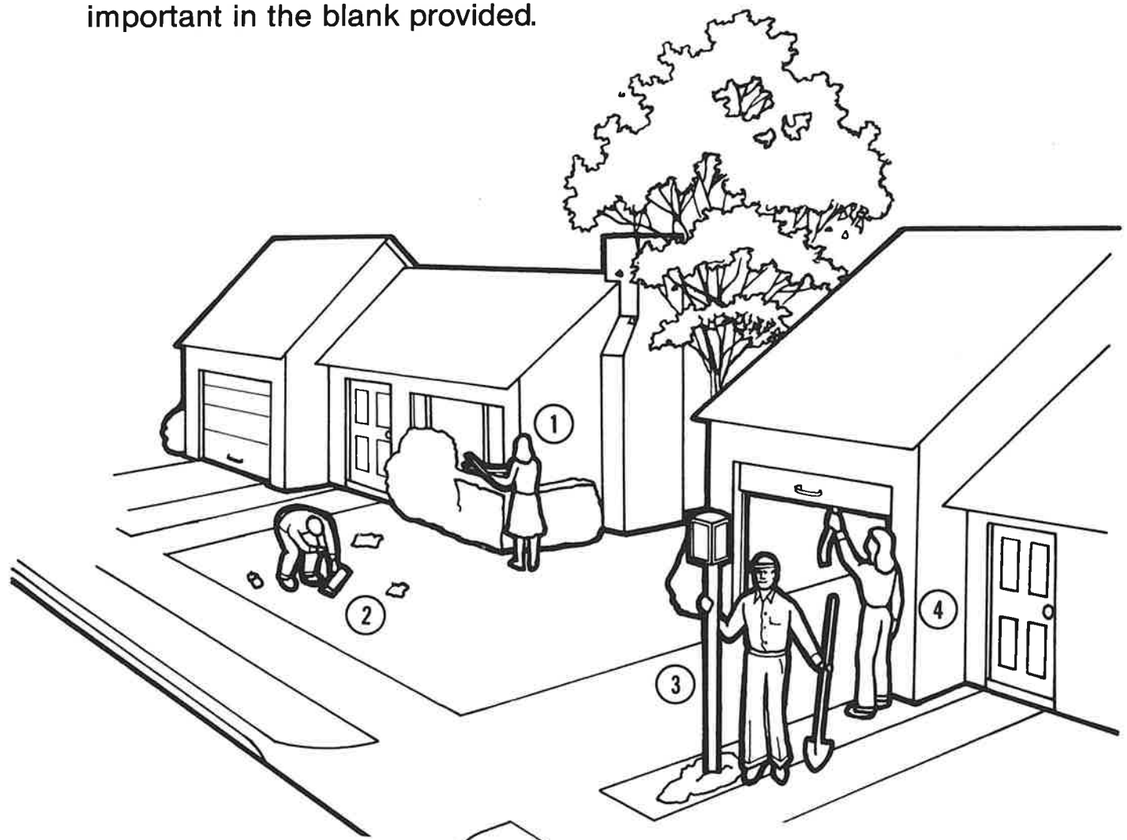
This picture shows some other ways that people protect their homes and valuables. These are some very important crime prevention activities. For each crime prevention activity listed, write the letter of the reason it is important in the blank provided.

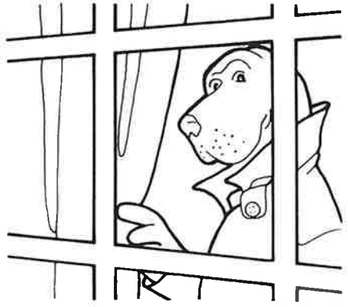


Crime Prevention Activity	Reason It Is Important
1. _____ Person trimming bushes in front of window.	A. It is important to close & lock **all** doors.
2. _____ Person picking up newspapers and packages from lawn.	B. Sometimes strangers may look for a place to hide outside while trying to get into a home.
3. _____ Person putting up outside light.	C. Certain items left in the front yard show a burglar that the people living in the house are on vacation.
4. _____ Person closing garage doors.	D. Burglars like to work in the dark.

See page 22 for the answers.

Protecting your neighborhood...

You can protect yourself and your home by working together with your neighbors and friends to prevent crime. One way to do this is to be alert to people and activities in your neighborhood.



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Practice being alert by doing the following:

Look outside your window.

When you see a person outside:

1. Describe the person –

Man or woman? _____

How old? _____

How tall? _____

Fat or thin? _____

What color hair? _____

What color clothes? _____

List some other things that you notice about the person, such as a mustache, beard, or glasses, etc.?

_____

_____

_____

2. Describe what the person is doing. _____

_____

_____

3. Find a car or truck.

What color is the car or truck? _____

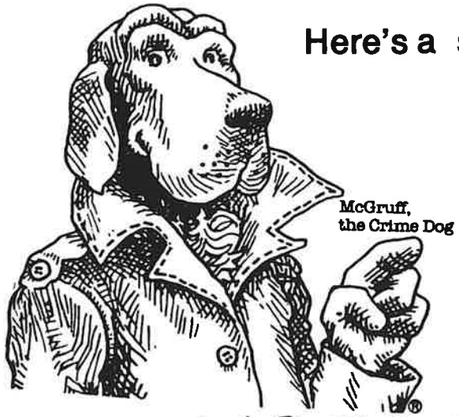
What kind of car or truck? _____

What are the colors and numbers on the license plate? _____

If the car or truck is moving, which way did it go? _____

How many people were in the car or truck? _____

Was there anything unusual about the car or truck, such as dents, decals, or signs? _____



Here's a song about drugs you should learn.

USERS ARE LOSERS

MODERATE SWING

COMPOSED & ARRANGED BY MICHAEL CARROLL

SAYING NO ISN'T TOUGH WHEN YOU THINK LIKE McGRUFF®!

Can You Remember These 5 Ways?

A message from the Crime Prevention Coalition, the U.S. Department of Justice, and the Advertising Council. ©1988 National Crime Prevention Council

CRIME PREVENTION CAMPAIGN
MAGAZINE AD NO. CP-2482-88—7" x 10" (110 Screen) **CM-12-88**
Volunteer Agency: Saatchi & Saatchi DFS Compton, Inc., Volunteer Coordinator: Robert A. Marchese, Aetna Life & Casualty

When you call the police or sheriff some of the questions they will ask you will be:

1. **Your name**
2. **Your address**
3. **Where are you calling from?**
4. **What has happened?**
5. **Was anyone hurt?**

The police officer or sheriff may have other questions besides these. Try to answer as best you can.

The most important thing to remember is:

DO NOT HANG UP UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.

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There are signs that tell you that your house may not be safe to enter. If you return from someplace and your house looks different than it usually does, DON'T go in. Go to a neighbor's and ask to call the police.

The picture on the opposite page shows a home that is unsafe to enter. Using the chart below, decode my message to find out what things make this house unsafe.

a - 26	e - 22	i - 18	m - 14	q - 10	u - 6	y - 2
b - 25	f - 21	j - 17	n - 13	r - 9	v - 5	z - 1
c - 24	g - 20	k - 16	o - 12	s - 8	w - 4	
d - 23	h - 19	l - 15	p - 11	t - 7	x - 3	

1. 21 9 12 13 7 23 12 12 9 12 11 22 13 4 18 7 19

15 12 24 16 25 9 12 16 22 13.

2. 23 12 4 13 8 7 26 18 9 8 4 18 13 23 12 4 25 9 12 16 22 13.

3. 6 11 8 7 26 18 9 8 4 18 13 23 12 4 12 11 22 13 4 18 7 19

15 26 23 23 22 9 18 13 21 9 12 13 7 12 21 18 7.

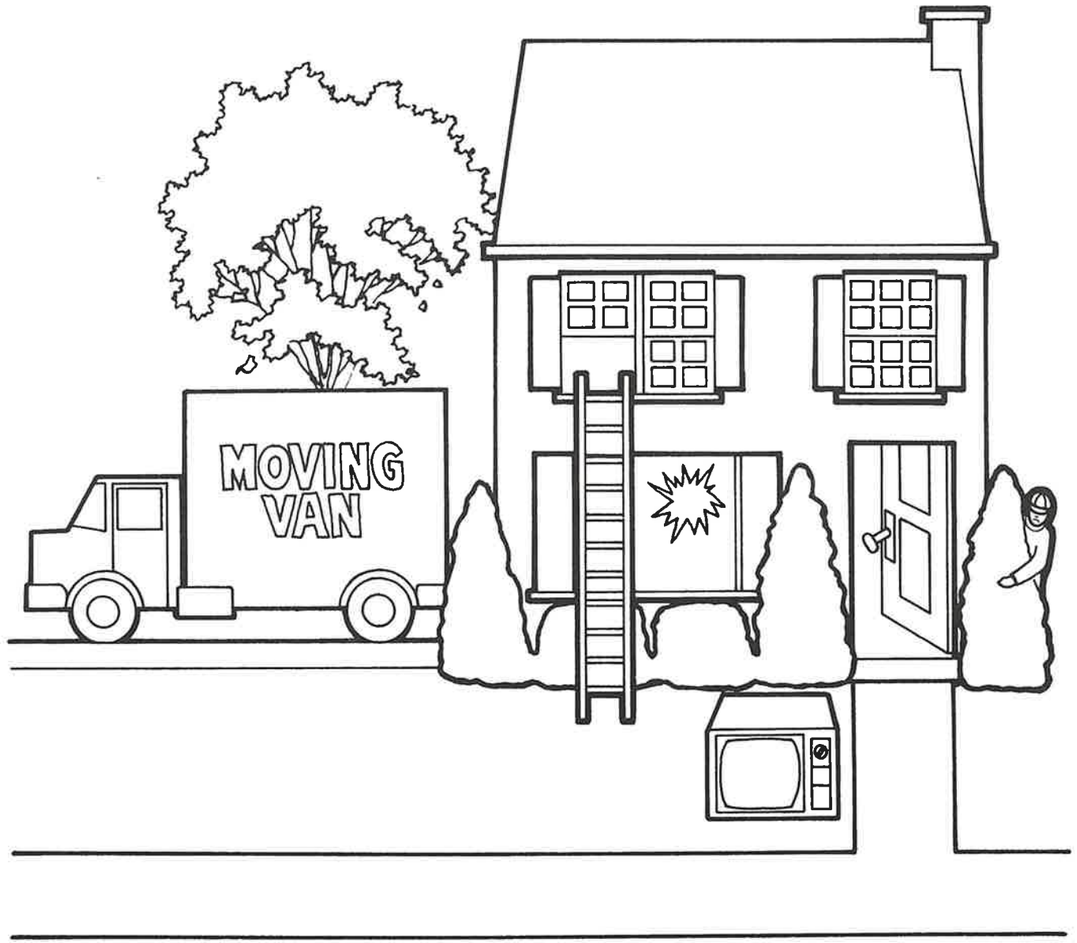
4. 7 5 12 13 15 26 4 13.

5. 8 7 9 26 13 20 22 9 19 18 23 18 13 20

25 22 19 18 13 23 25 6 8 19.

6. 8 7 9 26 13 20 22 7 9 6 24 16 18 13 23 9 18 5 22 4 26 2.

See page 22 for the answers.



If your house ever looks like this, you should not go in. Go to a neighbor's and call the police or sheriff.