



LifeSmarts
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Apartment Safety & Security 101 *Lesson Plan*

Overview

Leaving home and choosing a first apartment is exciting. This lesson challenges the student to create and use a safety and security checklist when evaluating potential apartments.

This lesson complements the LifeSmarts ConsumerMan Video titled *House Fires*.

Lesson Objective(s)

- Construct an audit to compare safety and security features at potential apartments.
- Create an awareness of apartment safety and security for first time renters.

CCSS Correlation

Language: *Vocabulary Acquisition and Use*

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.L.4

Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases by using context clues, analyzing meaningful word parts, and consulting general and specialized reference materials, as appropriate.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.L.6

Acquire and use accurately a range of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when encountering an unknown term important to comprehension or expression.

Reading

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.7

Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.

Time

2 class periods

Background

Moving away from home and into an apartment is exciting and a big step to becoming a responsible adult. This independence calls for applying real-life knowledge about safety and security to choosing a safe, secure first apartment. Before signing a rental agreement, it is important to check for safety and security in the surrounding area, the apartment building, and the apartment itself.

Materials

- Worksheet—*Apartment Safety and Security 101* Vocabulary List
- Worksheet Key—*Apartment Safety and Security 101* Vocabulary Prompts
- ConsumerMan Video—*House Fires*
- PowerPoint Slide Presentation—*Apartment Safety and Security 101*
- Student Activity—*Checking It Out*
- Student Activity Prompts—*Checking It Out*

ProceduresDay 1

1. Distribute *Lesson Content Vocabulary List*.
2. Assign students to define only the vocabulary they are confident they understand.
3. View the ConsumerMan Video—*House Fires*
4. Clarify and define vocabulary with the large group.

Day 2

1. Divide students into small groups and distribute student activity, *Checking It Out*.
2. Ask each group to fill in the empty lines with safety and security tips.
3. Select a spokesperson from each small group to share their ideas with the large group. Discuss the safety and security precautions familiar to students and through discussion expand their knowledge of apartment safety and security issues.

Discussion Questions

1. In conversation with friends, Cameron said, “I can’t wait to have my own place, so I can do whatever I want.” Discuss how this statement is both true and false when renting an apartment.
2. Landlord Tenant Law is written to protect both the property owner and the tenant. What protections do both parties need?
3. What common problems do first time renters have? How might they be avoided?
4. What fire safety precautions do you have in place at home; what precautions should be added?
5. What social media mistakes do teenagers make that threaten their security?

Extension and Differentiated Instruction Tips

1. Distribute the Worksheet *Apartment Safety and Security 101* Vocabulary List and define content vocabulary with students at the beginning of the lesson.
2. Assign small groups of students to complete only one section of *Checking It Out*.
3. After students complete *Checking It Out* and engage in class discussion, assign them to take the student activity home to discuss. Ask them to add any additional safety and security tips. Call for additions the following day and discuss the differences in perspectives of adults who have had the rental experience and teenagers who are preparing for their independence.
4. Plan a panel discussion. Invite recent graduates who live independently to discuss their experience. Use the discussion questions to start the conversation.
5. Assign students to discuss fire safety with their families and take any necessary additional fire safety precautions.