



webwise

Help your class to stay safe in the home, at school and while out and about

Www.crucial-crew.org is based on a series of school workshops held all over the UK (not all workshops are referred to as Crucial Crew) aimed at helping children to stay safe. Targeted at eight- to 11-year-olds*, the interactive website features 'What if...?'-style games on health, the emergency services, electricity, fire, seaside and transport safety with additional downloadable teacher resources. Some of the website's safety themes include gang culture and drug awareness that you may deem unsuitable for younger children. As always when we recommend websites, please explore the material thoroughly prior to use in the classroom to check its level of appropriateness. This is a fantastic website and ideal to use during Child Safety Week 2009 (22–28 June) with your whole class.



1. Virtual House

Safety starts in the home. By selecting the 'Virtual House' option in the interactive game children can enter the Crucial Crew house and learn about what to do in the event of a fire. They are also presented with a gas-leak scenario, as well as the importance of saying no to drugs and alcohol.

4. Railway Safety

This section will test children's knowledge about how to stay safe near railway tracks, stations and bridges. Help familiarise your class with railway warning signs and what to do if they accidentally drop something onto the line. You can also help teach children of the consequences of deliberately throwing things onto railway tracks.



2. Electricity Safety

This section includes a variety of animated scenes that present different scenarios designed to teach children about taking care near overhead electricity cables, pylons, substations and lamp posts. In each case, a scenario

is given that many children will be familiar with, such as flying a kite near a pylon or a lost football in a substation.

5. On the Buses

Whether any of your class take the bus to school or not, learning how to use this common method of public transport safely is a valuable lesson for all children. Scenarios include queuing sensibly, not distracting the driver or throwing litter out of the window. This section also includes general road-safety issues, such as being aware of other pedestrians and additional road users.



3. Building Site Safety

Again, this section is brilliant as it presents a common potential danger that your class could face in their everyday lives. Three of the Crucial Crew characters are trying to find a missing cat that may have wandered

onto a building site. What would your class do?

6. Beside the Seaside

Would your class know what to do if they got lost at the seaside? Do they know about how to use inflatables safely or recognise safe swimming flags? Use the animated scenarios to help teach children how to stay safe while having fun on the beach. An apt topic in the run up to the summer holidays. ■

