

12 Learn about Setting Up and Managing a Home

TRANSITION OBJECTIVE

Students will learn about safety, cleaning, maintenance, comfort and enjoyment in setting up and managing a home.

RELEVANCE TO SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION

What is a home? Regardless of where a person grows up, adults can make choices about how and where they wish to live. It is important to consider these areas when starting a home: safety, cleaning, maintenance, comfort and enjoyment.

INSTRUCTIONAL SEQUENCE

❑ STEP 1: Update Journal

My home is safe when . . .

❑ STEP 2: Convene Roundtable

"When I think about having my own home, I feel ____."

❑ STEP 3: Advance Organizer

"Today you will learn about three important areas to consider in setting up and managing a home."

❑ STEP 4: Activity - 25 Minutes

On a large piece of poster paper or bulletin board, make a **Home Poster** - a large outline of a house. Divide and label three areas: 1. Safety, 2. Cleaning and 3. Comfort. This is used in the following activity.

Students complete a **Carousel Activity** using all three sections of the handout **Home Is Where the Heart Is**. Divide the class into equal groups, naming them Group One, Group Two, etc. Assign sections from the handout to the groups, giving them the same names. Each group studies its section and prepares a short presentation, using the handout **Home Presentation**. The goal of each group is to have all members become "experts" on the assigned section.

As part of the presentation, each group adds ideas on its section of the **Home Poster** depicting the ideas from their handout.

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LIFE MANAGEMENT: Unit 4 LESSON 12

Home Is Where the Heart Is

Section 1: Keep Your Home Safe

Preventing Falls:

- Keep objects put away.
- Make sure steps are slick proof.
- Do not leave things on stairs.
- Use night lights in hallways and bathrooms.
- Do not leave things on sidewalks.

Preventing Electrical Problems

- Make sure electrical cords are not cracked.
- Do not leave cords where people could trip.
- Do not use more than one extension cord in an outlet.
- Leave space around the TV and stereo so heat will not build up.
- Keep electrical appliances away from bathtubs and sinks.
- Unplug small electrical appliances and "wall warts" when not being used.
- Cover outlets so small children do not poke things into them.

Preventing Fires

- Put smoke detectors in bedrooms, hallways and offices.
- Keep a fire extinguisher in the kitchen and learn how to use it.
- Keep matches where children cannot reach them.
- Use fireplaces carefully.
- Do not leave items near a furnace or water heater.
- Keep oily rags in covered metal containers.

Emergencies

- Keep emergency numbers where you can always find them quickly.
- Plan a home fire escape path and practice it with the family.
- Learn safety procedures for emergencies such as tornadoes, hurricanes, storms and earthquakes.
- Know the safest place in the home when there is an emergency.

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LIFE MANAGEMENT: Unit 4 LESSON 12

Home Is Where the Heart Is

Section 2: Keep Your Home Clean

What does it mean to be clean? Other people may have a different idea about what clean really means. When you plan to live with someone, you need to find out what clean means to them. You also need to share what clean means to you. Even though people may have different ideas about what a clean house is, keeping the home hygienic will prevent disease and other health problems.

How Clean Is Clean?

- **Kitchen:** To keep your kitchen free of bacteria and germs, do the dishes every day. Wipe countertops, after cooking. Keep food in proper containers in the cupboard or refrigerator. Change dishcloths, sponges and dish towels frequently.
- **Bathrooms:** Keep the bathroom clean by wiping sinks and cleaning toilets with a disinfectant cleaner each week. Wipe countertops each day to kill germs that can cause colds and serious illness.
- **Laundry:** Do your laundry each week or as needed.

How Often Do I Clean?

- **Daily Cleaning:** One way to get a handle on cleaning is to do a little bit every day. Wash and put things away as you use them. Wipe off the bathroom and kitchen countertops each day. Hang clothes or put them in a clothes hamper as you take them off.
- **Weekly:** Some cleaning jobs are done each week. This includes dusting furniture, vacuuming carpets, cleaning the bathroom, changing the sheets and doing the laundry.
- **Occasional Cleaning:** Some cleaning jobs are done every few weeks or months, such as the windows three or four times a year. Clean carpets one or two times a year. Clean out drains and cupboards every few months. Red the house and garage of unwanted items once a year.
- **Who Does the Cleaning:** Everyone in the house can have a job they do every day. These jobs can be switched between people each week. For big jobs, such as cleaning the closets, everyone can work together.

Keeping Things Working and Repaired

- **Maintenance:** Larger appliances such as refrigerators, washers and dryers work best if they are serviced each year. Large department stores have service departments. They will do this for a fee or you can purchase a service contract when you buy the appliance.
- **Repair:** When things break, you need to either throw them away or get them fixed. Always get leaks repaired right away because they can cause expensive damage later.

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❑ STEP 5: Activity - 20 Minutes

After completing the first activity, have students regroup in sets of three so that each new group has a representative from the original three groups. One way to do this is to have students count off in progressive sequence until all students have a number. Students form groups of three, according to their numbers; all “ones” forming a group, then “twos,” etc. Each student shares the section learned from the first activity, giving all students an opportunity to hear presentations on home safety, cleaning and comfort. After each student has made a presentation, check to see if everyone understands the information from all three sections of the handout **Home Is Where the Heart Is**.

❑ STEP 6: Evaluate Outcomes

The most important thing about my home will be “_____.”

❑ STEP 7: Connecting Activity

Invite one of the following to speak to the class: A local firefighter, a real estate agent or a health educator. Encourage students to think of three relevant questions to ask the speaker. Identify who will ask the questions so as to stimulate in discussion about home safety, upkeep and comfort.

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LIFE MANAGEMENT: Unit 4 LESSON 12

Home Is Where the Heart Is

Section 3: Make Your Home Comfortable

A home can be many things to people. Some people would say a home is a place where we live. But a home is more than that. A home takes care of our physical, emotional and social needs. Our homes is where we keep ourselves warm and safe (physical needs). It is where we take care of our feelings (emotional needs). It is a place where we can have a healthy personal and family life (social needs).

Physical Needs

- **Shelter:** A home protects us from weather, including heat, cold and stormy weather.
- **Safety:** A home protects our family and our things from outsiders.
- **Personal Care:** A home is a place where we take care of ourselves and our things.

Emotional Needs

- **Belonging:** Everyone needs a place to belong. Our home is a place where we belong and feel safe and secure. If you feel secure in your home, you will feel more secure outside of your home.
- **Comfort:** A home is a place to relax and be yourself. Your home is a place to have friends over.
- **Self-Confidence:** Having fun and being yourself at home can help you feel more confident.

Social Needs

- **Interacting With Others:** A home should have a place where people can be with each other. Arrange the furniture so that people can get together. This could be a table and chairs or a sofa and chairs.
- **Manners:** You can learn and practice good manners in your home. If you practice your manners with your family you will be more confident when you go other places.
- **Recreation:** Everyone needs to have fun and relax at home. You can have fun doing things by yourself or with others. This could be a sport, playing cards or listening to music. We also need to have a place to relax.
- **Privacy:** Everyone needs to be alone sometimes. It is important to have a place to be alone.

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Home Presentation

Follow the steps below to prepare for your individual presentations.

1. In your large expert group, read your section about homes.
2. Using the outline below, name the main topic areas from your section.
4. List two important points under each of the main topic areas.
5. Use your section of the **Home Poster** to show what your topic is about.
6. Plan what you will say to other students, using the outline and the poster.

Outline

Main Topic 1:

Point 1:

Point 2:

Main Topic 2:

Point 1:

Point 2:

Main Topic 3:

Point 1:

Point 2:

Main Topic 4:

Point 1:

Point 2:

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KEY WORDS

safety**prevention****conservation****emergencies****hygienic**

MATERIALS AND PREPARATION

- Student Handouts: **Home Is Where the Heart Is**, Sections 1-3, pages 157-159; **Home Presentation**, page 160.
- Prepare to have available large paper and art supplies for poster activity. The **Carousel Activity** is a grouping strategy as follows:
 - First, students are separated into three large groups. Groups select a section of the handout and prepare a presentation, each student becoming an “expert” about the information contained in their assigned section.
 - Second, students are regrouped to form smaller groups of three, each member representing one of the original groups.
 - Third, each representative gives a presentation. This allows everyone in the small group to learn about all the sections on the handout.
- Prepare to complete the small group portion of the **Carousel Activity**.

SCANS FOUNDATION SKILLS

- Basic Academic Skills: Reading, Writing, Listening, Speaking
- Thinking Skills: Decision Making, Reasoning
- Personal Qualities: Responsibility, Self-Management,