

NAME:

Effects of Homelessness

Read the 'Causes of Homelessness' (page 11) and 'Effects of Homelessness' (page 11) section of the fact book and complete the following activities.

ACTIVITY 1 - CATEGORISING - List all of the effects of homelessness that are mentioned in the fact book, categorising them in the correct section.

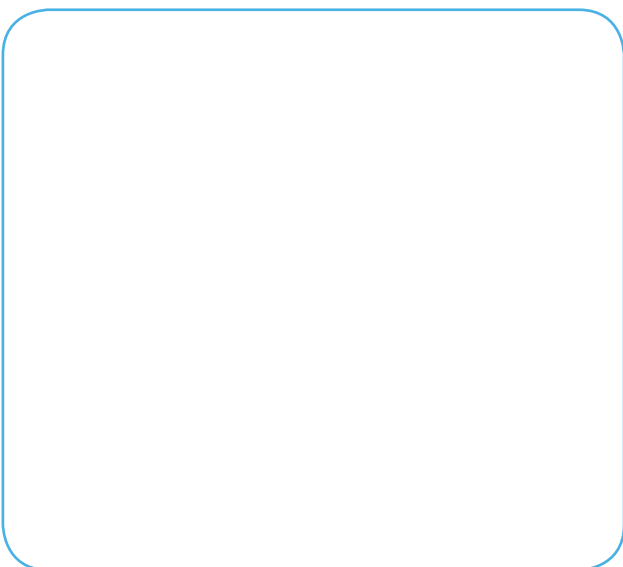
EMOTIONAL



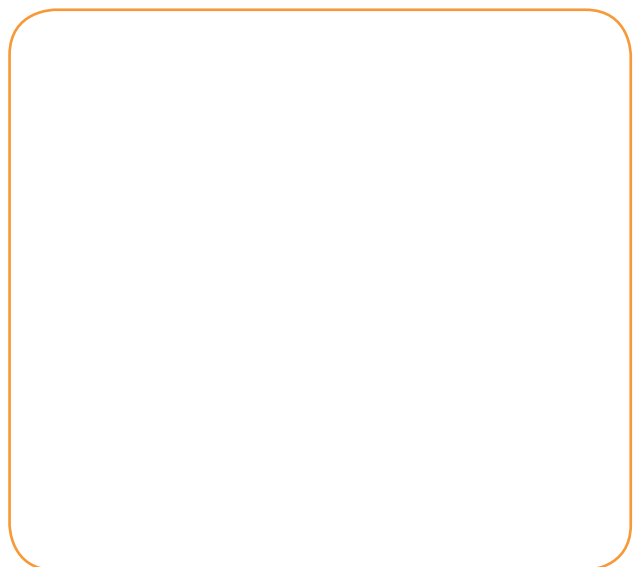
SOCIAL



PHYSICAL



ECONOMIC



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DIARY OF A PERSON EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

1. Come up with a scenario for someone experiencing homelessness using the template below:

| | |
|---|--|
| Name: | |
| Age: | |
| How did the person become homeless? | |
| How long has the person been experiencing homelessness? | |
| What type of homelessness is the person experiencing? | |
| Where are they currently living? | |

2. You are going to write two diary entries in your book detailing the experiences of the person you created above. The challenge is to put yourself in their shoes - you need to write from their perspective. Your two diary entries will focus on two separate days in the life of the person experiencing homelessness.

USE THE DIARY ENTRY STRUCTURE AND EDITING GUIDE TO HELP YOU WITH THIS ACTIVITY.

Some suggestions:

- Start each entry with the date
- Think about the tasks/activities you do on a daily basis (showering, brushing your teeth, eating breakfast etc.). How would these tasks happen for your character?
- What are some of the key challenges they would face daily?
- Try to think about the emotions your character would be feeling. What are they missing about their old life?
- Be descriptive about where the character is living – think about looks, sounds, smells etc.
- Try to keep it realistic

Teacher Guide – Effects of Homelessness

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EMOTIONAL

- Loss of self-esteem
- Susceptible to mental illness
- Feelings of isolation
- Less contact with family/friends
- Lack of employment/education opportunities
- Loss of dignity
- Behavioural problems in children
- Difficulties relating to peers and making friendships

SOCIAL

- Lack of access to health care/ treatment which can lead to spread of disease
- Impacts social cohesion in the community
- Lack of participation in civic life

EFFECTS ON THE
INDIVIDUAL

HOMELESSNESS

EFFECTS ON THE
COMMUNITY

- Increased susceptibility to disease/ illness
- Physical assault/abuse
- Nutritional deficiencies
- Increased likelihood of alcohol/ substance abuse
- Chronic pain
- Limited access to medical care
- Developmental delays in children experiencing homelessness

- Increased rates of hospitalisation and longer stays in hospital
- Taxpayer funded court/prison costs
- Operation and maintenance of homelessness support service programs – shelters, refuges etc.

PHYSICAL

ECONOMIC