

The undetected danger



Solving a carbon monoxide mystery

This resource is to accompany the activity '[The undetected danger: solving a carbon monoxide mystery](#),' created in partnership with Gas Distribution Network.

This activity is designed to help young people recognise the signs of carbon monoxide poisoning and how they can keep themselves and their family safe. Make sure you check any gas-based appliances in your meeting place and in your equipment stores before beginning this activity to ensure everyone stays safe.

Download and print out the clue cards and place them around your meeting place. Give each of the witness statements to an adult volunteer or young leader. If you don't have enough adult volunteers, young leaders or parents and carers to play the roles, you can stick these up around your meeting place instead.

Witness Clue 1

Witness 1:

It's so strange. I arrived at our meeting early and it was so cold! Luckily, we've a gas fire, so I turned it up to maximum to warm up the place before everyone arrived. I'd brought a snack to have for dinner, but I only ate half of it and felt a bit sick, so I left it. Then I started getting a headache and feeling dizzy. I went outside and started to feel a bit better. Maybe I just wasn't very hungry.

Witness Clue 2

Witness 2:

I was the last to leave the meeting place last week. It all seemed normal, and all the doors and windows were closed. Hearing what Witness 1 said, I remember feeling a similar way as I locked up last week. I felt light-headed and slightly sick, too. I thought I was coming down with the flu or had eaten something that made me feel unwell. I've felt fine since then, so I forgot about it. Maybe it isn't important – I just thought I'd mention it.

Witness Clue 3

Witness 3:

Some local developers are renovating older buildings in town. Someone said that they saw them looking at our meeting place about a week ago. They even put a flyer through the letter box.

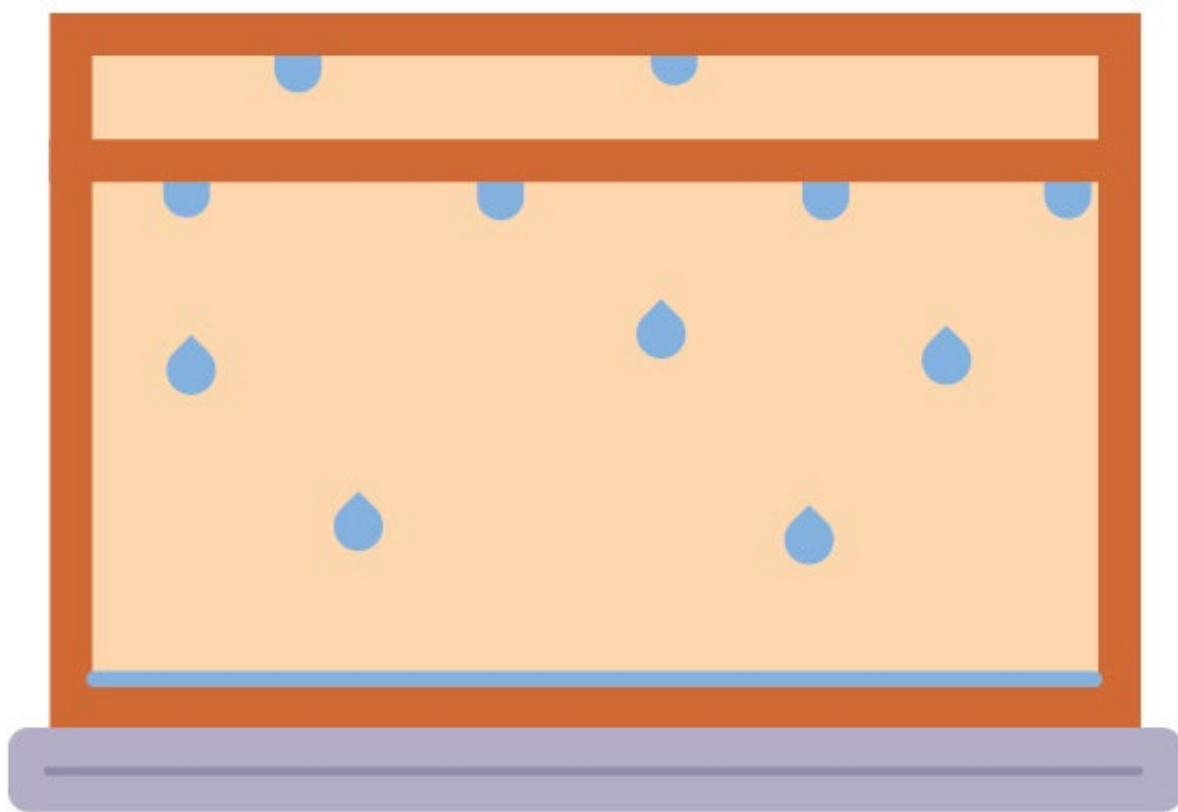
Witness Clue 4

Witness 4:

I helped lock up last week and everything seemed fine. I've been trying to keep the cost of our heating bill down, so I turned down the heating. I also checked the batteries in the smoke alarm and carbon monoxide alarm. One needed replacing. I wrote myself a note to buy a new one and put it on our noticeboard.

Physical Clue 1

There's condensation (drops of water) on the inside of all the windows. All the windows were closed when you arrived to the meeting. There's no sign of a break in.



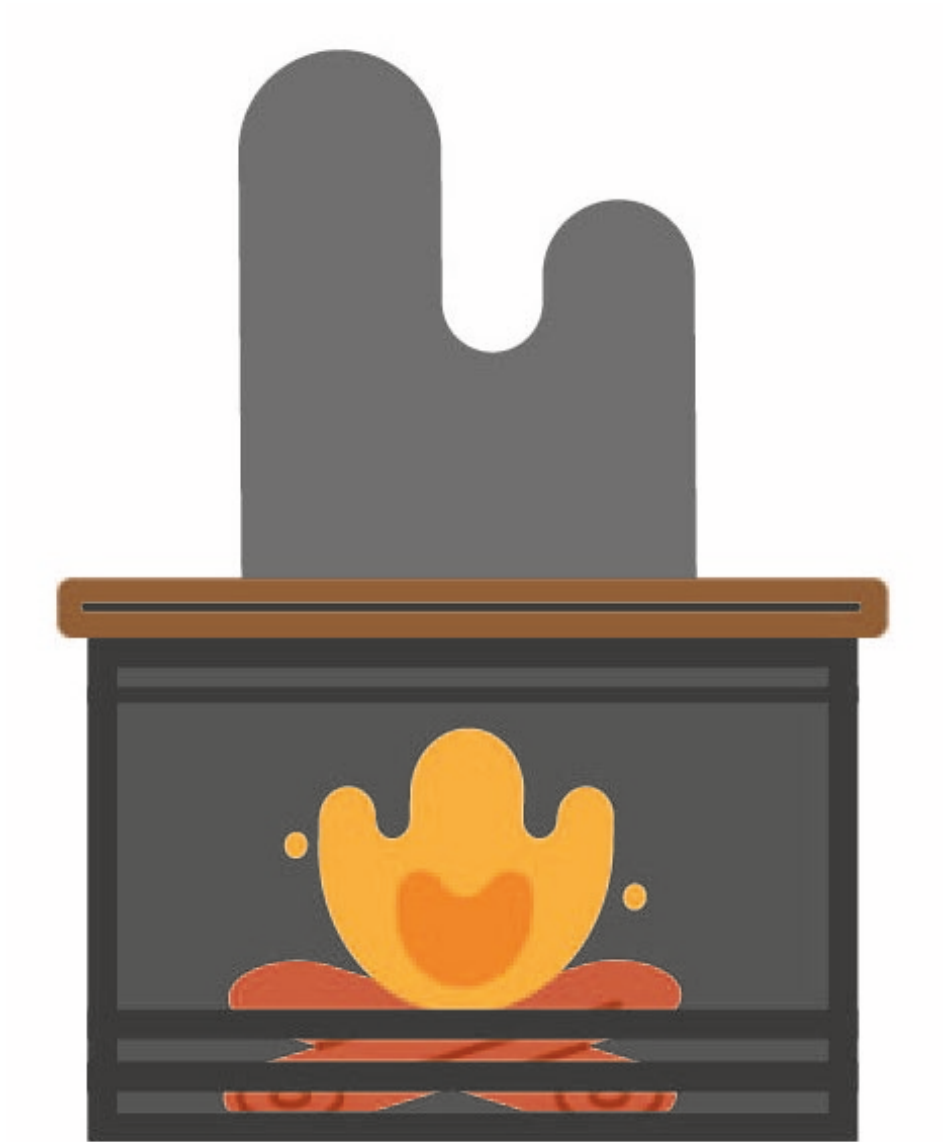
Physical Clue 2

The flame on the gas hob is yellow rather than the usual blue. It looks droopy and lazy.



Physical Clue 3

There're black soot stains on the wall behind the gas fire.



Physical Clue 4

The gas boiler needs a service. As you can see from the label, it's missed its yearly service.

