

Suburban activity pack



See how many of these places you can find on your local walk.

Each time you see one, write it down. Does it need electricity? Is there any other information about the site you think is particularly important?

Location	Found it?	Needs electricity?	Notes
Doctors			
Vets			
Dentist			
Hospital			
Fire station			
Police station			
Local community centre			
Shopping centre or retail park			
Local shop			
Bus stop			
Train station			
Places of worship			
Museum			
Benches or seating			
School			
Colleges			
Local government building			
Library			
Substation			
Overhead power lines			

Bonus question: Can you find the telephone number you'd use to report any damaged substations?

Leader guidance

This activity is all about young people getting out and about in their community while understanding the importance of electricity. They'll learn to identify electricity signage, as well as learning more about the importance of electricity to the local community and key electricity safety messages.

Important safety information

It can be dangerous if people get too close to (or make contact with) electrical equipment – they might be injured or they might get an electric shock (which could be fatal). This is why the danger of death sign is used on substations, pylons, poles, and along some transport routes such as train lines. In these places, and when you see these signs, it's important to remember 'Stay away – stay safe'.

Don't touch equipment or try to move signs or barriers. If vandalism has happened, or if the site appears unsafe to the general public, note down the details and call 105 (the power cut and emergency number).

Overhead electric lines, underground cables, substations and other electrical equipment are safe in normal conditions, but they can carry voltages from 230 (domestic) up to 400,000 volts.

Substations

Electricity substations are located in residential areas, to supply us with the power we depend on. Substations come in different sizes depending on the number and type of properties they serve.

Only electricity company employees and their contractors should access substations. If you notice a door, fence, or gate unlocked or damaged please contact your local distribution operator on the emergency number displayed on the warning sign.

Substations are safe to the public at all times as long as you remain outside the perimeter and don't enter them.

If you lose any personal property (for example, a ball) in a substation, don't go in to get it. Call 105 to report it, and they'll recover your property for you safely. Never try to recover any lost property yourself.

Overhead power lines

Overhead power lines can carry high voltages and they're often uninsulated (bare). They can look like telephone wires, but you should never assume this is the case. Most overhead power lines are supported by poles – look out for the danger of death signs.

Trees, fishing rods, tent poles, string, ropes, and water can all conduct electricity. When you're near power lines, it's important to remember to 'Look up, look out'.

Power cuts

In an emergency, or to report damage, you can use the power cut and emergency number: 105.

Activity guidance

Here are some examples of substations, danger of death signs, and overhead lines. Everyone should look out for these as they walk.

Overhead lines



Substations



Danger of death sign

