

## KIDS HOME INSPECTION ACTIVITIES

Children are very observant. While you are at home busy with a house project, involve children in a house inspection using some of the ideas listed below. It can help them appreciate their home and also become more observant of their neighborhood. They might even be the first to spot a problem area that requires immediate attention!

## Inside Your House:

1. Have kids estimate the number of windows in the house. Then have them do the actual count and compare numbers.
2. Estimate the number of floor tiles and/or wall tiles in the bathroom or kitchen. Then actually count the tiles. It can be a contest for the whole family.
3. Have family members 'walk off' the length and width of a large room in the house. Count the number of steps you take. Then measure the room with a tape measure. Divide the actual measurement by the number of steps taken to determine the length of your stride. Now go 'walk-off' the measurements of other rooms.
4. Ask kids to open and close each window to see which ones operate smoothly and easily.

## Outside Your House:

1. Notice basic shapes on all sides of the house from the roof to the foundation - squares, rectangles, triangle, etc. How many different shapes are there?
2. See if there are any puddles of water around the house or in the yard. Measure how deep the water is.
3. Do you see any holes or cracks in the walls?
4. Count the number of windows at your house. Can you see any places where there once was a window but where there is no window now? Are there any cracks or broken glass?
5. Take a walk around the block and notice:
a. How many different shapes do you see in the houses on your block?
b. Notice the different 'skin' materials on each building - brick, wood, concrete, stucco
c. Count the number of driveways and garages
d. How many different colors can you find on the houses on your block?
