



Virginia Natural Gas



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**



Activity Book

Dear students and parents

In coordination with Virginia Natural Gas, this activity book is designed to help teach you (your student) about the importance of digging safely and calling **811** before starting any digging project. This program has been established to help protect citizens from unintentionally damaging underground utility lines.

When you dial **811**, local utility companies who have underground lines on or near your property, will be notified about your digging project and will mark their lines with paint and/or flags free of charge. This will help you understand where utility lines such as gas, power, phone and cable are located so you can dig safely around them.

These lessons learned can help prevent service interruptions and potentially dangerous accidents by educating everyone on the importance of calling **811**. Additional information is available at **virginiannaturalgas.com** or **VA811.com**.

We hope you enjoy completing the activities in this book and that they bring you one step closer to becoming a safe digging champion! We hope it will also serve as a reminder to always

Know What's Below. Call 811 Before You Dig.

Sincerely,



Jim Kibler
President, Virginia Natural Gas



Virginia Natural Gas

Color Code for Marking Underground Utility Lines



Electric



Gas - Oil



Communication



Water



Irrigation



Sewer



Proposed Excavation



Temporary Survey

Smell Gas? Call 877.572.3342



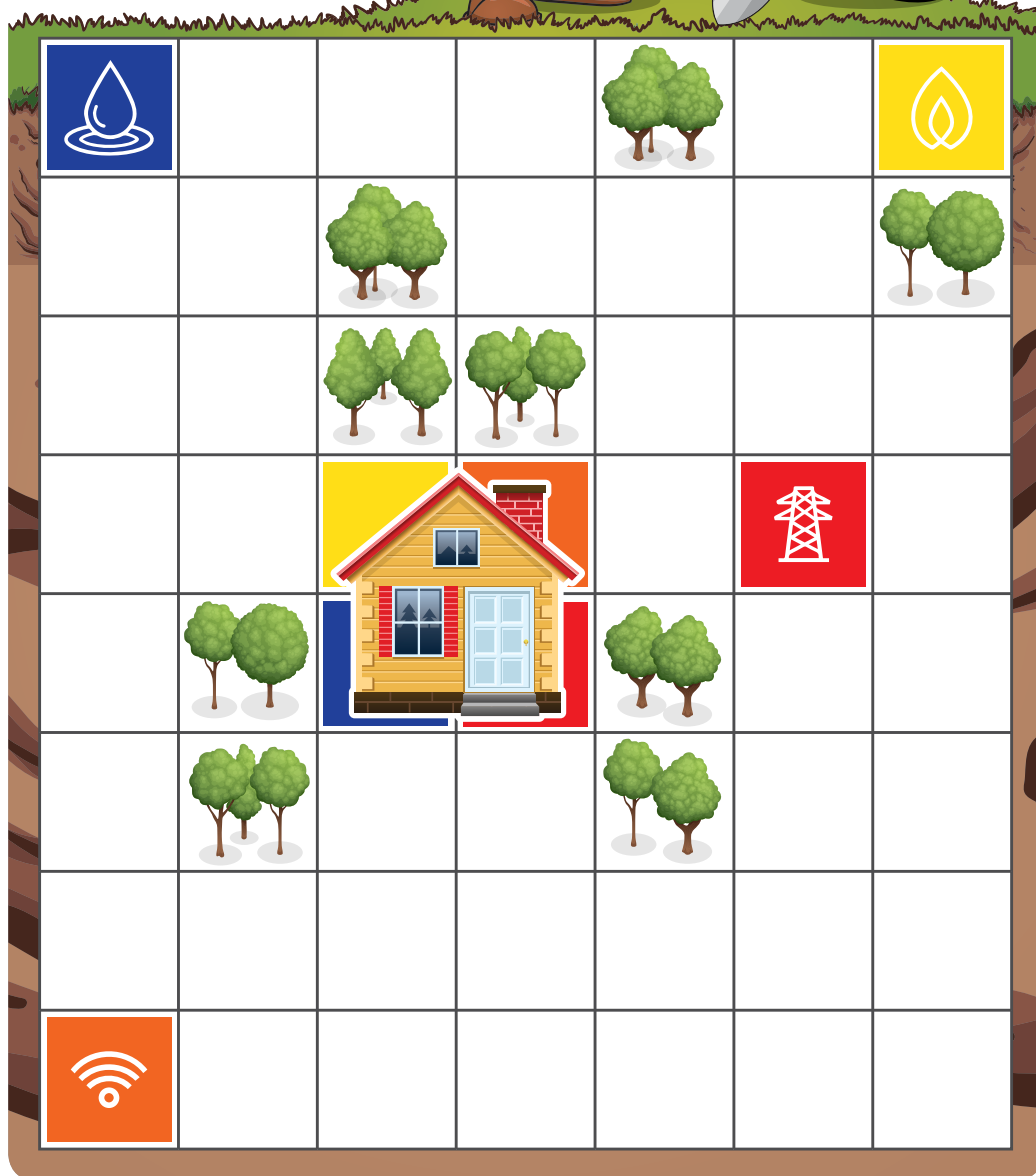
Learn what's underground!

Did you know that there are natural gas pipelines and other utility lines such as water, cable and electric running underground? Engineers build underground systems to deliver these services safely across the country to your home. Homes and businesses use natural gas for heating, cooking and powering their factories.



Activity

Connect the locations to bring natural gas, electricity, water and cable television to the home.



I dig with C.A.R.E.

Excavation work, including digging or excavating around a home or business, is the most common cause of natural gas emergencies. Before digging around your property, state law requires you call **811**, a statewide, toll-free number, to have your utility lines professionally marked.

Always dig with **C.A.R.E.** That means to **Call 811** before you dig, **Allow** the required time for free utility marking, **Respect** the marks and then **Excavate** carefully! Remember, damage prevention is a shared responsibility.

Dig With **C A R E**. Keep Virginia Safe!

- C** Call 811 before you dig.
- A** Allow required time for marking.
- R** Respect the marks.
- E** Excavate carefully.



Activity

Unscramble the words.

1. AFLG _____

2. AGS _____

3. TEXACVEA _____

4. SIPPE _____

5. TYAFSE _____

6. TLUIYTI _____



Are you a
safe digger?
Ask an adult in
your home to visit
[virginianaturalgas.com](http://virginianaturalgas.com/safety)
/safety
to learn about
damage prevention.

Learn about safe digging



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

Activity

Match the
flags to the
correct utility.

Now that you know natural gas pipelines live underground, you must be careful to avoid hitting these pipes when digging.

At Virginia Natural Gas, people's safety is our highest priority. When we are working near your home or our pipeline, we wear protective gear like safety vests and hard hats to stay safe and ensure we are easily recognizable. Always call **811** before beginning any digging project so we can make sure natural gas and other underground lines are easily recognizable to you.

When you call **811**, utilities place flags on their underground lines to tell you areas to avoid. Natural gas pipelines are marked with yellow flags. Can you identify the other types of flags?



A. Gas, oil, or petroleum

B. Sewer

C. Proposed excavation

D. Reclaimed water, irrigation

E. Potable water

F. Electric

G. Temporary survey

H. Communications

Damage prevention by the numbers

Did you know that each year more than 250,000 calls are made to **811** in VNG's service territory to have utilities properly marked to prevent damages while digging or excavating?

To avoid damaging any underground utility lines, homeowners should call **811** at least 3 working days (excluding weekends and legal holidays) before beginning any digging project. Homeowners can even submit a request online at **VA811.com** 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

After your request is made, you must wait approximately 48 hours to allow time for marking. Once the utility lines are properly marked, you can begin your digging or excavation project carefully.

| | | | | |
|----|---|----|----|----|
| 33 | ÷ | A) | = | |
| | | | | + |
| | × | 4 | = | C) |
| | | | | = |
| | | - | 59 | = |

| | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|----|
| 10 | × | B) | = | |
| - | | | | |
| D) | + | F) | = | 28 |
| = | | | | |
| E) | | | | |

Activity

Use the information above and throughout this book to help you complete the Math Crossword Puzzle.

Clues

- A. How many days in advance should you call **811** before starting a digging project?
- B. Number of different colored flags used to mark underground utilities before digging?
- C. Approximately how many hours should you wait for the utilities to be properly marked?
- D. How many steps in the C.A.R.E. message?
- E. How many letters are in the word SAFETY?
- F. How many hours a day can you submit an **811** ticket online?

Sniffy the Skunk says **Smell Gas? Act FAST!**

As a skunk, I certainly know about bad odors – like the rotten egg smell that is added to natural gas to help you know if there is a possible natural gas leak. When you smell the rotten egg odor of natural gas, you need to act fast! This means don't delay—get away!

Leave the area right away and tell an adult to call Virginia Natural Gas at **877.572.3342** or **911**.

- Don't look for the leak.
- Don't use or touch anything electrical, like flipping off light switches or turning off the TV.
- Don't even use a cell phone!



Activity

Color in
Sniffy the
Skunk.



Picture yourself at Virginia Natural Gas

More than 300 people work hard each day to ensure Virginia Natural Gas delivers natural gas safely and reliably to our customers. It takes all kinds of jobs to run our company – including meter reading, mechanics, construction, engineering, customer service, accounting, technology and sales. There are lots of exciting careers at Virginia Natural Gas!

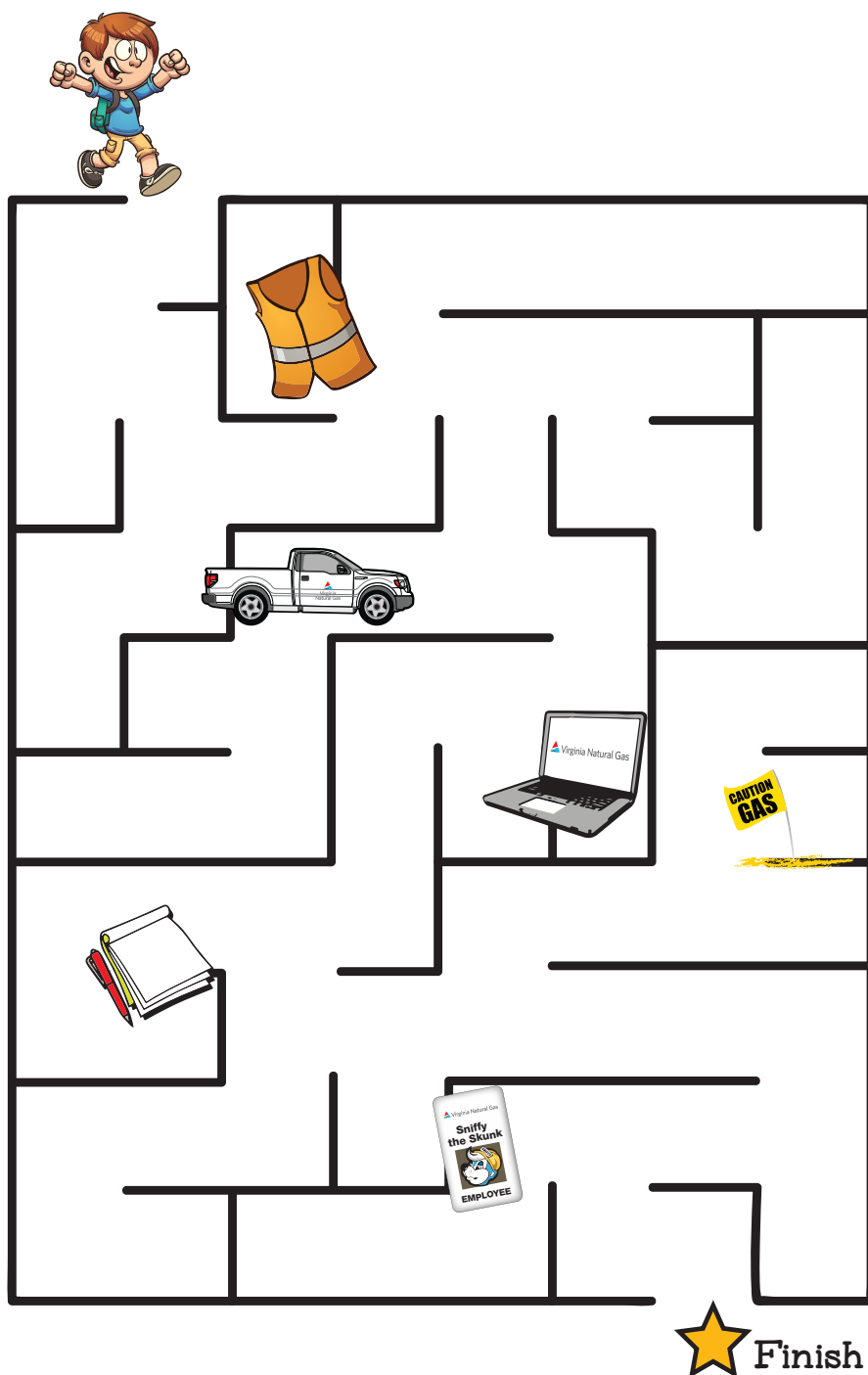
Activity

Find your way to work!



For more information about careers in energy, visit virginiannaturalgas.com/careers.

What career looks most interesting to you?



I know how my home uses natural gas

Natural gas pipelines connect to the meter at your house, which helps to control the flow of natural gas and measures how much your family uses. Pipes inside your home connect the natural gas meter to natural gas appliances like a water heater that warms up the water you use for baths, washing clothes and dishes; a stove that cooks your food; and a furnace that helps to heat your home when it's cold outside. Cars, trucks and buses can even use natural gas to run their engine!

Activity

Circle all the appliances in your house that use natural gas.



Natural gas word search

Now that you have learned all about natural gas, there's one more challenge.

Activity

Find the hidden words from the list in the word search.

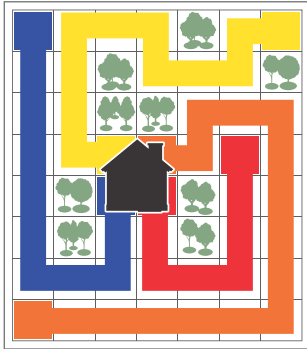
| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N | A | T | U | R | A | L | G | A | S | F |
| S | M | E | L | L | E | A | O | N | G | A |
| N | T | E | A | S | A | F | E | T | Y | C |
| I | F | O | D | O | R | G | K | I | N | T |
| F | Y | W | N | E | S | A | U | T | O | F |
| F | A | W | A | R | E | N | E | S | S | A |
| Y | T | E | G | L | U | F | S | Y | A | S |
| R | O | T | T | E | N | E | G | G | S | T |



| | | |
|-----------|-------------|--------|
| ACT FAST | NATURAL GAS | SMELL |
| AWARENESS | ROTTEN EGGS | SNIFFY |
| LEAK | SAFETY | ODOR |

Answer key

Page 1



Page 2

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. FLAG | 4. PIPES |
| 2. GAS | 5. SAFETY |
| 3. EXCAVATE | 6. UTILITY |

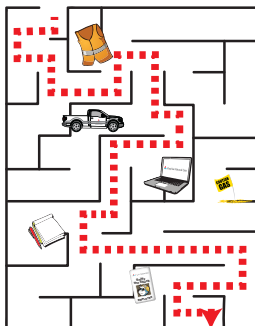
Page 3

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| 1. A | 5. D |
| 2. F | 6. B |
| 3. H | 7. C |
| 4. E | 8. G |

Page 4

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| A. 3 | D. 4 |
| B. 8 | E. 6 |
| C. 48 | F. 24 |

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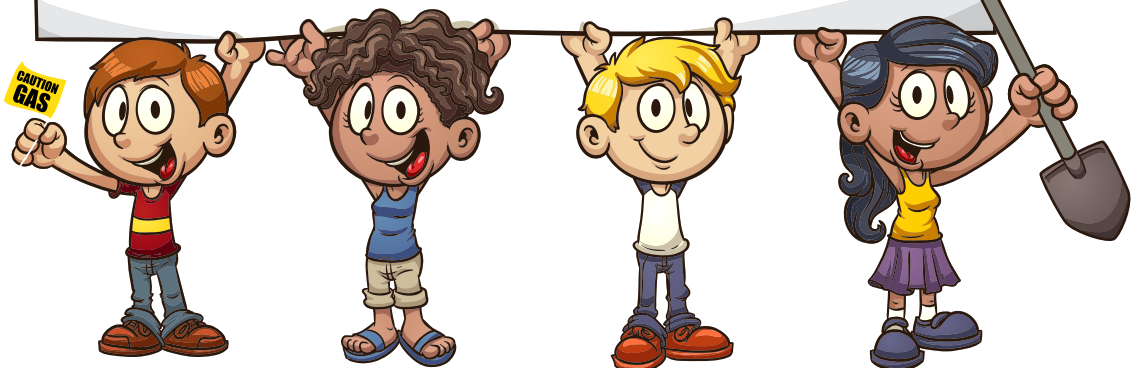
Congratulations!

You're a Safe Digging Champion!



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

You did it!



For additional activities, or for students receiving credit for participation, visit:

virginiaturalgas.com/kidscorner



Virginia
Natural Gas

virginianaturalgas.com/safety