

# Reducing Graffiti in our Community Classroom Materials

Attached are various materials and resources designed to help you educate students about graffiti prevention. For additional copies or for more information please call **975-3383**.

## Graffiti Wipe Out Word Search

- Reprint this activity in your school newsletter.
- Hand out as a classroom activity.

## Lessons (for Grade Levels 5 and 6)

- Ideas to encourage open classroom discussions of the harmful effects of graffiti crime.

## Graffiti Wipe Out Coloring Sheet

- Reprint this coloring sheet in your newsletter.
- Hand out as a classroom activity.
- Display all the colored sheets on your school's bulletin board or in the classroom.

## Prepared Ad Layout

- Reprint the provided advertisement in your school's newsletter.

## "Kyle the Graffiti Fighting Bear" Storybook (For Grade Levels K to 3)

To obtain a copy of the storybook or to inquire about a classroom graffiti presentation, please contact Constable Lee Jones, City Police Services, at 975-8300 or email [lee.jones@police.saskatoon.ca](mailto:lee.jones@police.saskatoon.ca)

## GRAFFITI WORD SEARCH

GRAFFITI  
VANDALISM  
LAW  
SPRAY CAN  
GANGS

PROPERTY  
WALL  
ABATEMENT  
MARKER  
ART

COMMUNITY  
PAINT - OUT  
CREW  
RESPECT

ILLEGAL  
POLICE  
PREVENTION  
ETCH

B	M	J	F	D	T	A	X	N	A	M	E	W	L
P	R	E	V	E	N	T	I	O	N	O	Z	A	L
O	A	R	T	N	T	A	X	G	E	R	B	L	C
L	B	I	P	R	O	P	E	R	T	Y	K	L	J
I	A	L	N	G	Q	S	P	R	A	Y	C	A	N
C	T	L	D	T	R	O	L	J	M	R	Y	B	T
E	M	E	J	B	O	A	D	H	E	L	F	A	C
R	Y	G	F	T	W	U	F	W	C	K	S	T	E
E	E	A	M	R	S	I	T	F	M	T	A	E	P
K	N	L	H	G	F	W	D	C	I	Z	E	M	S
R	T	J	N	V	E	H	G	Z	D	T	E	E	E
A	V	A	N	D	A	L	I	S	M	Z	I	N	R
M	G	C	O	M	M	U	N	I	T	Y	M	T	B

# Discussions For Children – Let’s Talk About Graffiti

## Lessons (for Grade Levels 5 and 6)

These lessons are designed to introduce children to the concept that graffiti is a crime, and is not art. They will learn how graffiti hurts people because it costs money to clean up and it scares people. They will also learn that property like walls, sidewalks and buildings belong to people and that doing graffiti on those things affects the owner. They will discuss the concept of property.

- Ask children if they know what graffiti means? Ask them if they have ever gone to the library and signed out a book that had been written on, drawn in or marked in? Have they ever seen a desk or table that has been written or drawn on? Ask them to give some other examples.
- Explain that graffiti can be pictures, letters or words written with paint, markers or scratched into something like a window. Graffiti is marking on someone else’s property without their permission.
- Explain to the children that when a picture, letter or words is painted or written on someone else’s wall, fence, sidewalk or building or any other property, it is not art. **It is a crime.**
- Explain what crime is. Tell students that the government makes rules. We call these rules laws. **Graffiti is against the law** and it is a crime.
- Have children **think** of times when they have **seen** graffiti.
- Ask children how they **feel** when they see a house with the windows and doors broken? How does a playground with trash on the ground and graffiti make them feel? How does **graffiti** make them **feel**?
- Explain to the children that there is gang graffiti and non-gang graffiti. Both kinds are a crime. **Gang graffiti** consists of words, initials, pictures, or marks of any kind done to someone else’s property for the purpose of marking the gang’s territory. It is used as a warning to members of other gangs not to come into that neighborhood. Gang related graffiti is encoded but can be read easier than other graffiti.
- Ask students to describe any graffiti they have seen. Do they think it was gang graffiti? Why or why not? Where was the graffiti located? Who do they think would’ve cleaned it up? Would that cost money? Why?
- Graffiti is not art, it is a crime. Anyone caught doing graffiti in Saskatoon can go to court and may be required to go to jail, pay back the victim or do community service. Some cities in the United States have laws stating that convicted graffiti vandals will not get a driver’s license until they are 18 years old.

\*These excerpts have been taken from the City of Calgary/Calgary Police Services “[Mona Lisa Anti-Graffiti Program](#)”. These lessons were developed with the Calgary Engineering and Environmental Services and the Calgary Catholic Separate School District. If you would like a complete copy of this program please contact the Graffiti Control Specialist at 1-780-974-1099.

# GRAFFITI WIPE OUT

