

Reading: How Burglar Alarms Work

This activity is based on this article:

<https://home.howstuffworks.com/home-improvement/household-safety/burglar-alarm.htm> The article is four pages long. Be sure to read all four pages.

Vocabulary

electric circuit -- A basic electric circuit has a power source, a pathway for the electricity (such as wire), and something that uses the electricity (like a buzzer or light).

switch -- A switch can be added to a basic electric circuit to complete the circuit so electricity flows or to interrupt the circuit so that electricity does not flow.

Based on the reading, answer the following questions.

1. Explain how a closed-circuit alarm system works.
2. Explain how an open-circuit alarm system works.
3. Some alarm systems use sensors. How would you use the following types of sensors to trigger an alarm?
 - Pressure sensor or floor mat sensor
 - Motion sensor
4. What sensor did your micro:bit alarm system use?

5. Often alarm systems make a loud noise when the system detects an intruder. What are some other ways an alarm system can indicate the alarm has been triggered?

6. How could you change your micro:bit alarm system to flash lights when the box is opened?