

Name: _____

Play by the Rules Worksheet 4-2: Name That Crime

Sam and Jonathan, both 15, are best friends. They usually spend every weekend together playing soccer, fishing and swimming. One weekend, while staying at Jonathan's house, they decide to do something different. Sam has noticed the gun cabinet downstairs before but has never seen any of the guns. He suggests to Jonathan that they check out what is inside. Jonathan finds the key and opens the cabinet. Inside are his father's two rifles, three pistols and an old BB gun. They take the BB gun, one rifle, one pistol and ammunition for each.

The boys decide they will go out into the backyard and do some target practice shooting. They first try shooting at targets with their slingshots, but they don't hit anything. They think they will have better luck with the guns. As soon as they began shooting the rifle and pistol, Jonathan's neighbor comes outside yelling at the boys. The boys take everything and run.

They decide to go to Sam's house for the rest of the weekend hoping the neighbor will not get them in trouble. Before walking the two miles to Sam's house, they hide the slingshot, guns and ammunition in their clothing so no one will see it. On the way, they stop at the convenience store to get a drink. Inside the store they see James, a guy who has been bullying them at school. They stop to talk to him on their way out of the store. They show James the pistol and rifle and tell him if he doesn't leave them alone, he will be "eating bullets for lunch!" After James leaves, Sam and Jonathan are proud of themselves for confronting him.

Once they arrive at Sam's house, they decide to shoot at bigger targets. They begin shooting at the road signs across the street from Sam's house. Then they move on to shooting out the windows of an old abandoned building down the street. After an hour of practice they decide they have both improved their target skills, and begin walking back to Sam's house. On the way back, Jonathan remembers that he has a couple of "cherry bombs" in his book bag. They shoot off the fireworks by blowing up a couple of mailboxes. Once they get back to Sam's house, they place the BB gun and rifle under Sam's bed and put the pistol, slingshot and ammunition in Sam's book bag. They will return everything to Jonathan's house later. Sam and Jonathan spend the rest of the weekend at Sam's.

Monday morning they meet at school and realize that Sam still has the pistol and ammunition in his backpack. Sam and Jonathan decide that it is a good idea to keep the gun in the backpack at school just in case they run into James again.

Directions: With a partner, make a list of any illegal actions in this story.
