Children’s Centre Events Quiz

1. A survey undertaken by Shelter found that homeless children in temporary accommodation missed an average of how many school days due to the disruption of moves into and between temporary accommodation?
   - a) 25  
   - b) 40  
   - c) 55

2. Poor housing conditions in childhood increase the risk of severe ill-health or disability by what percentage?
   - a) 10%  
   - b) 20%  
   - c) 25%

3. From the findings of a recent survey, how many families are using credit cards to pay their rent or mortgage payments and thus increasing the likelihood of the family becoming unable to afford to remain in the property and so face homelessness?
   - a) 750,000  
   - b) 2,000,000  
   - c) 1,400,000

4. An analysis of Serious Case Reviews between 2005 and 2007 found high mobility and poor living conditions to be a factor in what percentage of cases?
   - a) 25%  
   - b) 45%  
   - c) 60%

5. A mother and father living in a two bedroom first floor flat with a son aged 7, a daughter aged 5 and twin boys aged 10 months would be considered to be overcrowded according to the legislation.
   - True or false?

6. According to figures from Shelter, many children living below the poverty line will be pushed farther down the scale by cuts to housing benefit which began to be implemented in April this year. Of these, how many children will be in families trying to live on under £50 a week?
   - a) 21,000  
   - b) 29,000  
   - c) 33,000

7. Children living in unfit housing conditions are more likely to run away from home.
   - a) true  
   - b) false

8. How many households were in temporary accommodation throughout England on 31st December 2010?
   - a) 27,000  
   - b) 36,000  
   - c) 48,000

9. True or false? Research has found that children who have been in temporary accommodation for more than a year are over three times more likely to demonstrate mental health problems such as anxiety and depression than non-homeless children
   - a) true  
   - b) false

10. How many households are predicted to be affected by the current housing benefit changes?
    - a) 500,000  
    - b) 750,000  
    - c) 1,000,000
Answers

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<td>1</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>A survey undertaken by Shelter found that homeless children in temporary accommodation missed an average of 55 school days (equivalent to quarter of the school year) due to the disruption of moves into and between temporary accommodation.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Shelter’s 2009 report <em>Improving Outcomes for Children and Young People in Housing Need</em> found that poor housing conditions increased the risk of severe ill-health and disability by up to 25% during childhood.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Over 2 million</td>
<td>And this is an increase of more than 50% on the number the previous year. This is an indicator of the desperate circumstances people are finding themselves in and shows how just one single thing, like a bout of illness, rent increase or drop in income, is all that’s needed to push people into spiral of debt and arrears that can lead to the loss of their home.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>Marion Brandon et al. <em>Understanding Serious Case Reviews and their Impact: A Biennial Analysis of Serious Case Reviews 2005-2007</em>. University of East Anglia: June 2009. “Some children and their parents were living, periodically, with friends or extended family in overcrowded and inadequate accommodation, for example one child lived with four adults and five other children in a two bedroomed flat. Another child and his siblings lived in a family which had moved eight times in a single year and the children had attended seven different schools between 2006 and 2007.”</td>
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| 5 | false | Despite promises no government has yet updated the definition of statutory overcrowding in England, which has remained unchanged since its introduction in 1935 and does not accord with modern-day living standards. Under this definition:  
- Babies less than a year old are not counted as members of the households for overcrowding purposes  
- Those between one and 10 are counted as half a person  
- Living rooms are acceptable places to sleep.  

650,000 households were overcrowded in 2010 — highest for 14 yrs |
<p>| 6 | 33,000 | Independent research commissioned by Shelter from the University of Cambridge shows the cuts will push an extra 27,000 families already below the poverty line to below the minimum income guarantee. This means 54,000 children will be in households left with less than £100 a week after housing costs to cover all other expenses including utility bills, transport, food and clothing. Shockingly, 33,000 children will be in families forced to survive on under £50 a week. |
| 7 | True | Research for <em>Against the Odds</em> found that 1 in 10 children living in acutely bad housing have run away from home, as has 1 in 7 children living in unfit housing conditions. One child interviewed described their disappointment at not having friends back to play because of rats in the home and another because of shame and anxiety about an ant infestation and lack of space. |</p>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>48,000</td>
<td>The number of households in temporary accommodation was 48,010 on 31 December 2010, 10 per cent lower than the same date last year. Of these, 87% were in self-contained accommodation - a decrease from 89% at the end of the same quarter last year. Five per cent were in bed and breakfast hotels. This is an increase from 1,880 to 2,310 compared to the same quarter last year. Over the period October to December 2010, 10,870 applicants were accepted as owed a main homelessness duty, 15 per cent higher than the same quarter last year. (Government figures)</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>true</td>
<td>Often children in temporary accommodation experience problems at school and are described as ‘unhappy’ – Shelter’s survey of teachers as reported in Rice, B. Against the Odds, Shelter, 2006. Children living in bad housing feel a mixture of emotions about their homes, positive as well as negative, highlighting the importance of the home and family unit in terms of children’s emotional wellbeing. Some children interviewed expressed anger, sadness and frustration about aspects of their home. A longitudinal study undertaken in Birmingham found that two-fifths of the homeless children studied were still experiencing mental health and development problems one year after being re-housed.</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>1 million</td>
<td>• Of whom most are affected by the change from 50th percentile to 30th percentile of market rents to determine Local Housing Allowance rates – with families who rent privately losing an average of £9 pw. 21,000 households will be affected by the capping of local housing allowance for different property sizes, with an average loss of £74 per week. Those most affected by the capping will be families living in more expensive areas eg inner London. • We expected that between 136,000 and 269,000 households will be unable to afford to pay their rent during this year, as a result changes introduced in April 2011.</td>
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