

# Carbon Tradies: Worksheet 3 – Barry the Builder

Go to [www.missionco2.com](http://www.missionco2.com), click on Play and watch the introduction to meet the Carbon Tradies. Enter your name to begin.

Select Barry the Builder and watch his introduction for information that will help you with the following questions and activities.



1. Why is it good financially and for the environment to use materials that are available from your local area when building a house?

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2. On a map of your local region mark in on it the location of any timber yards, brickworks, cement works and glass suppliers for the sources of timber, bricks, concrete and glass for windows.

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3. Choose one of the following: From one source of timber find out what are the two commonly used timbers and where they come from; from one source of bricks find out where the bricks are actually made; from one source of concrete where the concrete is mixed; and from one glass supplier where the glass is made, to report to the class.

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4. What is one major advantage of building a house with a concrete slab floor rather than some other form of flooring? Would this be much of an advantage where you live? Explain why or why not.

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5. Barry recommends installing insulation when building a house. Why is this important in the area in which you live? For information see the fact sheets at [www.yourhome.gov.au/technical](http://www.yourhome.gov.au/technical). Under Passive Design, Insulation is Fact sheet 4.7.

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6. Before choosing the insulation how can you find out how effective it is and what does the measure of effectiveness (the R-value) actually tell you?

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7. On the coolest side of your house should you have lots of windows or larger windows or would it be better to have relatively few or smaller windows? Explain why.

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8. On which side of your house would it be more important to have awnings, blinds and curtains? Explain why.

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9. On cool or windy evenings check to see what draughts you can find. Make a list of them. Would it be advantageous to have the openings sealed?

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10. Name three ways you can help reduce heat loss from a house. How could you improve your house so that there is less heat gain and loss, and hence reduce the use of any heaters and air conditioners?

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11. If you leave electrical appliances turned on, even leaving a TV or computer on standby power instead of turning it off at the switch, wastes power. During one week make a list of any appliances you find left turned on in your house.

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12. Go to the Mission CO2 Home page, click on Fun Stuff and Meet the 'Carbon Tradies' and select Barry. What suggestion has he that will help you save on heating and cooling and hence save money?

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## Further information

For more information on how you can save water at home, work or school visit [www.savewater.com.au](http://www.savewater.com.au) or contact your local water provider.

