

## **Worksheet Activity: Sending Secret Messages**

Tom is trapped on the top floor of a department store. It's just before Christmas and he wants to get home with his presents. What can he do? He has tried calling, even yelling, but there is no one around. Across the street he can see some computer person still working away late into the night. How could he attract her attention? Tom looks around to see what he could use. Then he has a brilliant idea—he can use the Christmas tree lights to send her a message! He finds all the lights and plugs them in so he can turn them on and off. He uses a simple binary code, which he knows the woman across the street is sure to understand. Can you work it out?

You can convert the binary number to a letter. The letter A would be the number 1, while the letter x would be the number 26.