Smoke in your Eyes

A Teaching Resource Exploring Tobacco Issues

Scott and Hannah: Primary 5 Story



Scott and Hannah

Scott and Hannah are now in Primary Five with Miss Lindsay. They are currently studying health and fitness in their PE class. Scott is very excited by this because he likes to keep fit and play football. Hannah is also keen to compete with Scott and show him that girls are just as good at sport as boys. Miss Lindsay explains that they are going to be completing different sports challenges in the gym hall and that the pupils will be recording their individual results.



The pupils get started and Scott, Hannah and their classmate David are in the same fitness team.

Scott and Hannah notice that David is struggling with the activities and is very out of breath. He is also struggling to match the results of Scott and Hannah for each challenge.





The janitor, Mr French, enters the gym hall and is entertained by the pupil's challenges — claiming that he could do a lot better than any of the children. He notices David finding the climbing frame activity difficult and starts shouting instructions at him.

Miss Lindsay approaches Mr French to find out what is going on, and on hearing him, challenges him to try and activities for himself.





Mr French looks nervous but as the entire class are watching him, he feels he has to give it a go. Mr French quickly discovers that the activities are much harder than he expected. He finds himself out of breath, sweating and has to stop because he is coughing so much. In the end, he quits the challenge with more than half of the activities to go, apologising to the class for his comments and joking about how terrible his attempt was. Miss Lindsay gathers the class together and invites Mr French back to the class to investigate the results of this activity.



Miss Lindsay asks the class to consider why Mr French struggled with the activity and they decide to put him the hot seat in order to figure this out. The children begin to question Mr French and quickly discover that he smokes a great deal each day and does not exercise regularly. From this discussion, Miss Lindsay asks the class to consider what is in a cigarette that could make it so bad for Mr French's health and fitness. The children cannot give Miss Lindsay the answer and so they decide as a class to find this out through research.

The children complete their research and present it to the rest of the class. They are surprised by the range of dangerous chemicals contained in a single cigarette. Miss Lindsay then explains to the class that these chemicals do not only harm the smoker but can be dangerous to others around them who breathe in the second hand smoke. Hannah puts up her hand and talks about how her mum had been concerned about second hand smoke when her Granddad had been staying with the family — especially as her mum was pregnant at the time with her younger sister Brogan. Miss Lindsay points out this is an excellent example of the dangers of second hand smoke. David has been very quiet during this discussion as he has been thinking about his results. Both of his parents smoke at home and he wonders if being surrounded by second hand smoke has affected his health and fitness results. When David goes home that night he tells his parents about the task and what he has learnt about second hand smoke.

