

All about cancer

Key Stage 2 (7-11 years)

This fun activity is linked to elements of the National Curriculum:

Personal Social Health Education (PSD and PSE), Literacy, ICT, and Science.

Learning outcomes

- Learn the basic facts about cancer
- Consider and empathise with the emotions often felt by people who are affected by cancer
- Learn about how Macmillan helps people with cancer

Preparing for the activity

You will need

- A photocopy of the activity sheet for each pupil
- Optional: the primary *Cancertalk* video, 'Jenny's diary', scene 1 and 2

What to do

Explain how the body's cells grow, what cancer is, how it is treated, and how Macmillan helps people living with cancer. You can use, or go through together with your pupils, information from our youth website, www.macmillan.org.uk/whybother

Ask your pupils about times they have been ill – how they felt, how they got better (medicines, care from mum and dad etc.) and how long it took for them to get well. They may mention chicken pox and a broken bone and these are also mentioned in the activity sheet (Points 1-2).

From your explanation of what cancer is and how it develops, see if they remember how it can be treated (Points 3-6).

Discuss how people with cancer may feel (Point 7) and explain that Macmillan helps people living with cancer (Point 8).

Ask them to draw a picture of how they could help someone with cancer. Ideas can be anything from giving them cards, flowers and toys, to watching a film.

Event idea

This activity can be done while taking part in one of Macmillan Cancer Relief's events, such as *Cancertalk* Week 23-27 January 2006, The Macmillan Miles Challenge 21-28 May 2006 or your own health promotion or fundraising event for Macmillan.

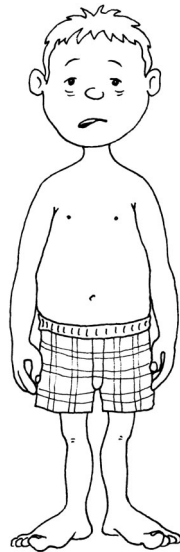
All about cancer

Macmillan Cancer Relief helps people living with cancer. We provide very special care in many ways.

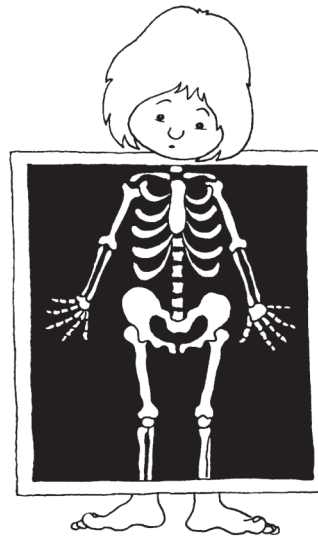
Try and complete these nine activities, then, if you want, colour-in the pictures.

1 Make this boy look as if he has chickenpox. You need to draw lots and lots of red spots all over his body!

Chickenpox takes about 10 days to go away.



2



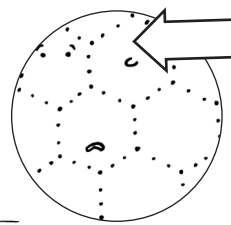
When some people have accidents, they break bones in their body.

A special machine called an x-ray machine can take a picture of their bones to find out which one is broken. Have you or someone you know ever broken any bones? Which ones?

Broken bones can take about 8 weeks to heal.

3 Our body is made up of millions of tiny cells, so small you need a microscope to see them.

When we're healthy, these cells work hard. Then they wear out and are replaced with new ones. Cells normally divide in a controlled way so that new cells are made in the body.



But sometimes, instead of behaving themselves, some cells grow too quickly and they crowd out the good cells. The bad cells are called cancer cells. Draw what you think the cancer cells look like here.

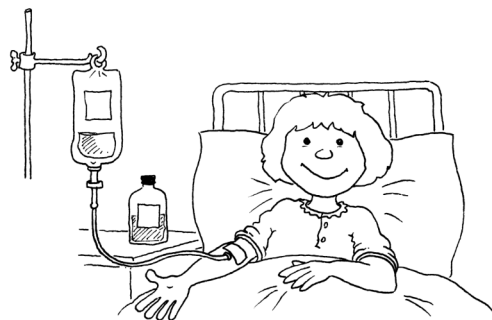
Grown-ups can get cancer and sometimes even children can get cancer. You can not catch cancer – it's not like chickenpox. If children do get cancer they nearly always get better.

4 If someone has cancer, they have to go to hospital. The doctors will try

different ways to help them get better. Sometimes the person will have an operation to cut out the cancer.

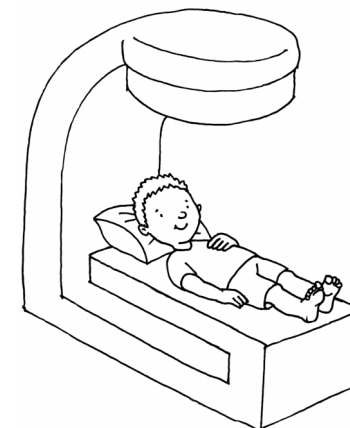


5 Macmillan nurses and doctors can give you strong special medicines to help the cancer go away. This is called chemotherapy. Chemotherapy can make a person feel sick and sometimes their hair falls out. But it doesn't hurt and their hair grows back.



Draw a Macmillan nurse by the bed.

6 They may have radiotherapy, which is like having an x-ray. Special rays are aimed at the cancer cells.

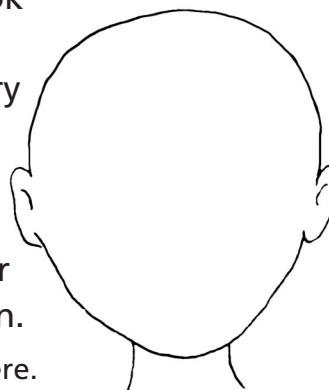


7 People have lots of feelings when someone they know has cancer. They might feel sad, angry, scared or worried. Can you draw these different feelings on these faces?



Think about how you can help someone feeling like this.

8 Macmillan nurses and doctors look after people who have cancer and try to make them better. Many people do get better from cancer and feel well again. Draw a happy face here.



9 You can help a person with cancer to feel better. Draw how you can help them here. Thank you for your help.