

# Facts about cancer

## Key Stage 3 (11-14 years)

This engaging activity is linked to elements of the National Curriculum: English, ICT, and Personal Social Health Education (PSD and PSE).

### Learning outcomes

- Learn the facts about cancer
- Understand how Macmillan helps people living with cancer
- Use the Why bother? website as a way of exploring how messages are communicated and impressions created

### Preparing for the activity

#### You will need

- Blackboard/flipchart, chalk/flipchart pens
- A3 sheets of paper

Print out the facts about cancer on this site or on our youth website, [www.macmillan.org.uk/whybother/learn/facts.html](http://www.macmillan.org.uk/whybother/learn/facts.html)

#### What to do

Either in pairs, groups or as a whole class, brainstorm to identify what your pupils know about cancer (including misconceptions or incorrect information). These could be categorised under such headings as 'types', 'symptoms', 'treatment', 'impact on life', etc.

Using a sheet of flip chart paper or the blackboard, tabulate the results of the discussion under the first two columns:

What do we know?	What do we want to know?	What have we found out?
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The sheet can be used as a running reference point throughout the lesson. Your pupils can use their own versions, either written or as a spreadsheet.

Next go through the facts about cancer you have collected or together go through the facts on our youth website, [www.macmillan.org.uk/whybother/learn/facts.html](http://www.macmillan.org.uk/whybother/learn/facts.html) – comparing the results in the first column.

Then complete the 3rd column with key things the pupils have found out. Going to other sections of the website will help them learn other interesting information about cancer and the related issues. They should be clued-up enough to complete the on-line quiz on our youth website, [www.macmillan.org.uk/whybother/learn](http://www.macmillan.org.uk/whybother/learn)

## Facts about cancer continued

If there are things they want to know that can't be found on this website or in the *Cancertalk* pack, you could add a 4th column, 'What do we still need to know' to the table. This list can then either be sent to us by email or post to our head office. The Schools and Youth team will try to answer the questions or find specialists who can. We will then send you a response as soon as possible.

**Additional activity** In pairs, they can analyse specific features of the website such as what sections they think are more useful, use of colour, emotive language, what they would improve and why. This information can be sent by email on the 'Make this site better' form, or sent by letter to Macmillan Cancer Relief's head office. For responses received, we will send a selection of freebies to the school or group, so be sure each response includes your school's address and class.