

KEY QUESTION:

Where can I find out more about cancer?

This task is linked to elements of the National Curriculum including PSHE/ Learning for Life and Work/ Health and Wellbeing, English, ICT and Science. Further links can be made to the *Every Child Matters Outcome Framework (2008)*.

Resources

- whiteboard/flipchart, pens
- A3 sheets of paper
- website access – to know how Macmillan Cancer Support helps people living with cancer and to find out facts about cancer: macmillan.org.uk/schools

Desired learning outcomes

- Learn the facts about cancer.
- Use the Macmillan website as a way of exploring how messages are communicated to different audiences.
- Understand how Macmillan helps people with cancer.

What to do

Either in pairs, groups, or as a whole class, hold a brainstorm to identify what your pupils know about cancer (including misconceptions or incorrect information). You could categorise the information under headings such as ‘types’, ‘symptoms’, ‘treatment’ and ‘impact on life’.

On the board, record the results of the discussion under the first two headings:

What do we know?

What do we want to know?

What have we found out?

These headings 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, whybother.org.uk, – comparing the results listed under the first heading.

Then complete the third question with the key points that 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 quiz on our website: whybother.org.uk/learn

If questions arise and answers cannot be found on the website, or in the two teaching packs offered by Macmillan (see more information on the *Cancertalk* and *Keep healthy, be active* teaching pack at macmillan.org.uk/schools), then you could add a forth question to the list: 'What do we still need to know?' This list can then either be sent to us by email, or posted to our head office (see below for the address). 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, pupils could analyse specific features of the website, such as which sections they think are more useful, what they would improve and why and opinions on the tone of language and colour schemes. Send your ideas to us at Macmillan Cancer Support's head office (see below for the address). 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.

(If pupils are affected by cancer, either directly or indirectly, you can order our publication, *Talking to children when an adult has cancer* from macmillan.org.uk/publications. Alternatively, call our cancer support specialists on **0800 808 00 00** (Monday to Friday, 8am to 9pm).)

www.macmillan.org.uk/schools

**Schools and Youth Team
Macmillan Cancer Support
89 Albert Embankment
London SE1 7UQ**

