PROACTIVE PARENTS/GUARDIANS GUIDE
DEAR PROUD PARENT/GUARDIAN, DARBY BOINGG HERE WITH A HANDY LITTLE BOOK TO TEACH YOUR KIDS ABOUT SMOKING. IN THIS STORY, WE HELP TEACH THE DANGERS OF THIS NASTY AND HARMFUL HABIT. SMOKING IS A SERIOUS SUBJECT, AND EDUCATING YOUR KIDS ABOUT THE TRUTH IS REAL IMPORTANT. WE’LL CLEAR THE AIR SO YOU DON’T CHOKE WHEN IT COMES TIME TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH YOUR TERRIFIC KIDS!

- Darby BoIngg

WHEN A NEW FRIEND MEETS DARBY AND THE BOINGG Bouncers, IT’S CLEAR HE’S A LITTLE CLOUDY ON HIS FACTS ABOUT CIGARETTES.

THERE ARE MANY MYTHS ABOUT SMOKING THAT NEED TO BE CLEARED UP. SMOKEY YUCKPAK’S IDEAS ARE PRETTY DARN FOGGY!

I’M SMOKEY YUCKPAK. DON’T YOU THINK SMOKING MAKES YOU LOOK COOL?

I’M IN PERFECT HEALTH AND I SMOKE ALL DAY LONG!

SMOKING MAKES YOU FEEL GOOD.

CIGARETTES HAVE SPECIAL STUFF IN THEM THAT MAKES YOU RUN FASTER.

SMOKING IS GOOD FOR YOUR TEETH AND YOUR BREATH.

SMOKING SOOTHS YOUR THROAT.

EVERYBODY ELSE IS DOING IT SO WHY SHOULDN’T YOU?

- SMOKEY YUCKPAK

DISCLAIMER. This book provides general information about smoking and related issues. This information does not constitute medical advice and is not intended to be used as a solitary reference on the subject matter, for the diagnosis or treatment of a health problem, or as a substitute for consulting a licensed health care professional. Consult with a qualified physician or healthcare practitioner to discuss specific individual issues or health needs, and to professionally address personal, emotional, health, physical, nutritional, or medical concerns.
Darby Boing's friends offer sound advice on the truth about smoking.

You don't have to be a doctor to teach your children the harmful things cigarettes can do to people.

Smoking is bad for many parts of your body!

I know apples are good for you but I know cigarettes aren't.

Cigarettes burn and have bad chemicals in them.

Smoking doesn't help you run or play sports better.

Smoking makes your teeth yellow and gives you funky breath! EWWW!

Smoking can...

- Increase the chance for a heart attack
- Increase the chance for a stroke
- Increase the chance for lung cancer
- Raise your blood pressure
- Make it difficult to breathe
- Increase anxiety
- Make you more tired when walking or exercising
- Stain your teeth, fingers, clothing
- Make you cough and give you a sore throat
- Cause tooth decay
- Decrease your appetite and senses of smell and taste
- Cost you lots of money
- Cause premature wrinkling

Oh dear! I'm going to need a bigger board!
Cigarettes contain more than 4,000 chemicals, many of them harmful and cancer-causing.

Formaldehyde: Stuff they use on dead bodies
Nicotine: A chemical that makes your body want more cigarettes
Acetone: Stuff in nail polish remover
Hydrazine: Stuff in airplane fuel
Carbon monoxide: Stuff that comes out of car tailpipes
Cyanide: Also used in poison for rats
Tar: They use that on roads
Lead: Stuff used in paint
Ammonia: Stuff that's in house cleaners

Wow, all of that is really in a cigarette?

Yes. And these too...

Benzene (a known carcinogen)
Arsenic (a rat poison)
Butane (cigarette lighter fluid)
Sulfuric acid (found in car batteries)
Methoprene (a pesticide)
Caffeine (a stimulant)
Urea (found in the urine of mammals)

It's important for kids to know the dangers of smoking and what it can do to your body.

Dr. Von Wheezles lifted the "cloud of smoke" to educate the group with "no filter."

Smoking causes breathing problems and is bad for your lungs.
In a year's time, the average smoker will put a cup of tar into his or her lungs.

Do you know what smoking does to you?

Smoking can cause cancer!
Smoking can cause cancer of the mouth, tooth decay, gum disease, and really yucky yellow teeth!

Smoking can cause vision loss and hearing loss.

Smoking hurts your heart and brain.

I didn't know all this!

Tar belongs on roads, not in your lungs!

Thanks for setting me straight!

Sick!
Gross!
Eww!

Yuck!
TALK TO YOUNGER KIDS ABOUT THE RISK OF DEATH FROM CIGARETTE SMOKING. IT COULD BE INFORMATIVE FOR THEM TO KNOW WHAT DISEASES THE HABIT CAN CAUSE.

- **CHRONIC BRONCHITIS** (inflammation of the breathing tubes in the lungs)
- **LARYNGITIS** (inflammation of the throat)
- **EMPHYSEMA** (a degenerative lung disease that destroys the ability to breathe)
- **CANCER OF THE LUNGS, MOUTH AND ESOPHAGUS**.
- **HEART DISEASE** (heart attack).

SMOKING CAN LEAD TO A PACK OF TROUBLE! IF YOU’VE NEVER SMOKED, DON’T START!

TEACHING KIDS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HARMFUL HABITS AND HEALTHY HABITS SHOULD BE A NO-BRAINER! TAKE A LOOK AT THIS LIST AND ADD YOUR OWN ENTRIES.

**HARMFUL HABITS**
- SMOKING
- EATING JUNK FOOD
- WATCHING TOO MUCH TV
- NOT GETTING ENOUGH SLEEP

**HEALTHY HABITS**
- EXERCISING
- EATING FRUITS & VEGETABLES
- BRUSHING TEETH REGULARLY
- GETTING PLENTY OF REST

Well, empty my ashtray! I didn’t know all that bad stuff! I thought smoking made me look cool and smell good!

Well, now that you know, you can put the cigarette down and do healthy things instead.
**SAY “NOPE” TO SMOKE**

IF A FRIEND OFFERS ONE, BE STRONG AND SAY NOPE TO SMOKE!

“NOPE, I DON’T WANT TO SMELL LIKE SMOKE!”

“NOPE, I WANT TO FILL MY LUNGS WITH CLEAN AIR.”

“NOPE, I DON’T THINK SMOKING IS FOR ME.”

“NOPE, I DON’T THINK MY PARENTS WOULD LIKE THAT.”

“NOPE, I DON’T THINK MY COACH WOULD LIKE IT.”

**ENCOURAGE YOUR KIDS TO COME UP WITH THEIR OWN CATCHY PHRASES AND POSTERS TO HELP SPREAD THE TRUTH ABOUT THE DANGERS OF SMOKING.**

CHIMNEYS ARE SUPPOSED TO SMOKE, NOT PEOPLE!

GIVE YOUR LUNGS AND HEART A BREATHER AND YOU WILL SMELL MUCH CLEANER!

PACK YOUR BACKPACK INSTEAD OF BUYING A “YUCKPAK!”

SAV NOPE TO SMOKE!

**TEACH YOUR CHILDREN THE IDEA THAT SMOKING CAN AFFECT THEIR ABILITY TO PERFORM SOME ACTIVITIES TO THE BEST OF THEIR ABILITY.**

**THINGS YOU CAN’T DO WHILE SMOKING**

SMOKING RUINS TASTE BUDS AND MAKES EVERYTHING TASTE BAD!

IF SOMEONE OFFERS YOU A CIGARETTE, JUST SKIP IT!

SMOKING CAN DAMAGE YOUR VOICE AND LEAVE YOU FLAT!

YOU CAN’T REACH THE PEAK WITH A PACK OF SMOKES!

BREATHE IN CLEAN AIR, NOT RE-CYCLED SMOKE!

Discuss with your kids other activities made more difficult by smoking, such as:

- Running
- Playing sports
- Swimming
- Exercising
Here are some guidelines to help prevent kids from smoking and using tobacco.

• Keep talking to your kids about smoking and its dangers. Even young children can understand that smoking is bad and can hurt their bodies.

• Be patient and listen as your kids talk to you about smoking. Hear what appeals to them about smoking and what they find unappealing.

• Let them know it’s okay to walk away from friends who smoke and don’t respect their choice not to smoke.

• Encourage them to play sports and participate in activities that don’t allow smoking.

• Keep the discussion positive. Stress the right things to do rather than the wrong. Reinforce their self-confidence, as it’s often the best weapon against peer pressure.

• Set rules in your home: no smoking, no chewing tobacco. Tell your kids that smokers smell bad, look sick, feel ill and miss out on doing fun stuff. Smoking is bad for everyone’s health.

Think about this:

Kids who use tobacco are more likely to...

• Cough a lot, develop asthma and other respiratory problems.

• Have trouble with athletic performance, as smoking affects lung capacity and endurance.

• Have yellowed teeth and bad breath, a by-product of tobacco.

• Smell bad! Cigarette smoke sticks to clothing, as the strong smell of stale smoke lingers for a long time.

• Try other drugs such as alcohol, marijuana and cocaine.

• Become addicted to tobacco and have a difficult time quitting.
**SMOKING BY THE NUMBERS**

**34,000,000**
Dollars spent each day on advertising by the cigarette industry

**443,000**
Deaths per year from tobacco use

**5,000**
Average cost in dollars spent in a year by a single smoker

**4,000+**
Number of different chemicals in cigarettes

**3,450**
Number of young people between 12 and 17 years of age each day, who smoke their first cigarette

**70**
Percentage of smokers who want to completely quit

**50+**
Number of known carcinogens in cigarettes

**33**
Percentage of all cancers caused by tobacco use

**21**
Percentage of adults who are smokers

**13-14**
Number of years on average that smokers die earlier than nonsmokers

**1**
Number of asthmatic 15-year-old Japanese boys needed to convince the city council in Shizuoka City, Japan, to ban smoking in public

**SOURCES:**
www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/fact_sheets/FAST_FACTS/index.htm
www.inforesearchlab.com/smokingstats.html

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**TALK TO YOUR KIDS ABOUT WHO YOU CAN HELP TO QUIT THE DANGEROUS HABIT OF SMOKING. GETTING KIDS ACTIVE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST SMOKING WILL HELP THEM STAY ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE BATTLE.**

**WHO CAN YOU HELP QUIT SMOKING?**

Do you know someone who smokes?

Maybe it’s a parent, an aunt or uncle, an older brother or sister.

You can help them quit smoking. Tell them how bad smoking is for them.

Or cut out this helpful form and give it to them.

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I CARE ABOUT YOU.

I care about your heart, your lungs, your voice and even your teeth. Smoking is bad for you and all those parts that make up you. Please don’t smoke.

Kick the smoking habit and go for a walk. Live longer and have more time to enjoy life!

Why?

Because I care about you.

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I'll stay smoke-free and breathe in clearly, I'll value my health and my well-being dearly.

If offered a cigarette, I'll just say nope, I'd rather ride bikes or play sports or jump rope!

There isn't one good thing that comes out of smoking, just coughing and gagging and stinking and choking.

So here I do pledge to stay smoke-free forever, and never start smoking, not ever, nope, never!