

## Safer Choices: Week 4

Wednesday 13 May 2015 **PEER PRESSURE**

Your child will be doing the following:

- Finding out about peer pressure
- Thinking about different scenarios where peer pressure might influence decisions about drugs

**First...** they will watch and discuss a You Tube clip about peer pressure: will people follow the crowd in an elevator experiment? ***You could talk about this at home - what do you think about it?***

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=1GSzCBv1-qA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1GSzCBv1-qA)



***Peer pressure is the influence exerted on a peer group that encourages others to change their attitudes, values or behaviours to conform to those of the group.***



**Next...** they will read four scenarios and, in a pair or group, create a storyboard for one of them. They will feed these back to the whole group.

### **PEER PRESSURE SCENARIO 1:**

Someone in your class is smoking marijuana every weekend and wants you to do the same. Lots of your friends have started and they say it's fun. Some of them have started to behave oddly, one boy is even becoming paranoid. You're worried that everyone at the party this weekend will be smoking except you and you are really tempted to join in.

**What should you do?**

**PEER PRESSURE SCENARIO 2:**

You are at a party where everyone is taking drugs except you. They all look really happy, like they're having a great time. It's starting to get a bit boring not being part of what they're experiencing; you're starting to feel left out.

**What should you do?**

**PEER PRESSURE SCENARIOS 3:**

You are really close to your older brother but recently he's been hanging around with new friends who are all openly using drugs and talk about it all the time. Your brother seems to really like them and to be impressed by them. You want to talk to him but you're worried that he will be angry and it will ruin your relationship.

**What should you do?**

**PEER PRESSURE SCENARIOS 4:**

Your best friend has always been worried about her weight and she has heard that if she takes amphetamines or M-CAT, it will make her skinny. She's even talked about injecting it. You know there are lots of risks but she is very sensitive and feels as if you are judging her.

**What should you do?**

***You could talk about this some more at home – which scenario did your child choose?***

***...what did they think would happen? ...what do you both think about the other scenarios?***