

Chain Reaction

Smoking Awareness

Ages 9-13 (School Years 5-8)

Key Stages 2 & 3



Chain Reaction sets the benchmark for education around smoking - no preaching, no condescension, just clear, factual information on the real dangers of smoking presented in an engaging, entertaining and memorable way!

"The performance was lively and enthusiastic with fantastic drama, singing, dancing and humour. I was delighted with the very powerful message which you conveyed and I am pleased to say that they were all adamant that they would never smoke. Let's hope so!

I think this show should be compulsory viewing for all 9-13 year olds."

Kate Harvey, Senior Teacher, Oakhill Primary School, Essex

THE PROJECT

Chain Reaction was the first ever performance devised by the company. The massive success of the project set the standard for all our innovative productions and gave us our memorable name.

This exciting piece of theatre is designed to provide young people with accurate information and facts about cigarettes in relation to personal health, the environment, the developing world, advertising and the financial effects of smoking,

A thorough knowledge of the dangers of smoking and the difficulties of breaking an addiction once it has been formed can help to empower a young person to make their own decisions and withstand the peer pressure that so often leads to the first cigarette. This is a health issue where prevention really does make the difference.

Chain Reaction has been performed to wide acclaim across London and the UK.

"I am writing to let you know how much we enjoyed this project. The performance was so professional and the children were so enthusiastic. I am involved with drama at Gwyn Jones and the children have had a wonderful experience of live performance to the highest standard."

Carol Ellis, Gwyn Jones Primary School, London Borough of Waltham Forest

THE SHOW

Chain Reaction uses an innovative mix of music, song and sketches to tell the magical story of Dorothy Gale, who works for Coughman's Cigarette Conglomerate. She sets off to work on a normal Monday morning not knowing that her life is about to change forever...

On her journey along the Yellow Tooth Road she meets three new friends whose lives have been affected by tobacco; a passive smoker who she gallantly saves from an asthma attack; an addicted smoker who is too scared to give up the evil weed; and a poverty-stricken tobacco picker from the developing world who earns a pittance from his job. Fired up and armed with this new information, Dorothy's friends spur her on to confront Mr Coughman and tell him to stop selling cigarettes!

With a very concerning episode of *The Great British Smoke Off* and music from Jess Glynne – *Chain Reaction* really is a show to remember. Adapted from the classic tale of the 'Wizard of Oz', the performance is lively and upbeat and has enthralled and educated thousands of young people.

"The play was excellent and made us laugh. It also made us think about the effects of smoking.
So your message was strong."

Pupil, age 12, Warren Comprehensive School, London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

CHAIN REACTION TEACHES YOUNG PEOPLE...

- The health implications of smoking and the effects of passive smoking
- The realities of the tobacco industry
- Why people might start smoking
- The dangers of smoking for asthma sufferers
- The effects on the environment (trees being cut down, paper used, etc.)
- The effects of smoking on unborn babies
- The financial benefits of staying smoke-free
- Current statistics on smoking related illnesses and deaths
- Historical facts about tobacco
- That it is difficult to stop smoking, so it is best not to start

"The children really enjoyed it, but above all, they took a lot from the message that the play passed on.
Several children have been discussing the statistics that came out in the play."

Helen Castell, Healthy Schools Co-ordinator, Langtons Junior School, London Borough of Havering

A FEW FAQS...!

How long is the show? 55 minutes

Who's it for? Ages 9 to 13/ Years 5 to 8/ key stages 2 and 3.

What school work does it link to?

- PSHE (Personal, Social & Health Education)
- Healthy Schools
- National Curriculum For Sciences
- Current National Anti-smoking campaigns

Are there any accompanying resources?

You can book an optional one-hour interactive drama workshop for up to 60 pupils. Just get in touch for costs and to find out more!

"A very big thank you [...] for performing at the West Kent smoking conference 'Let's Kick Some Butts'.
Your performance was extremely well received, with lots of positive feedback from all delegates."

Tracy Bishop, Public Health Officer, West Kent Health Authority

For more information on this show or any of our other work, please feel free to get in touch and we'll be happy to help!

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We look forward to hearing from you!