

Spread a Smile Activity 3

Snakes and Ladders

What you need to do

Create and play your own version of Snakes & Ladders using the homelessness list for the tops and bottoms of the snakes and ladders.

What do we need?

If you have an existing Snakes & Ladders board you can use that. Or you'll need coloured pens, a large piece of paper, some items to use as the playing pieces, dice, your creativity and imagination.

How long will it take?

One lesson using an existing board and reading out the snakes & ladders as you play. This can take an hour.

Two lessons if you make your own board, you can take one lesson to make it and then play the game the following lesson.

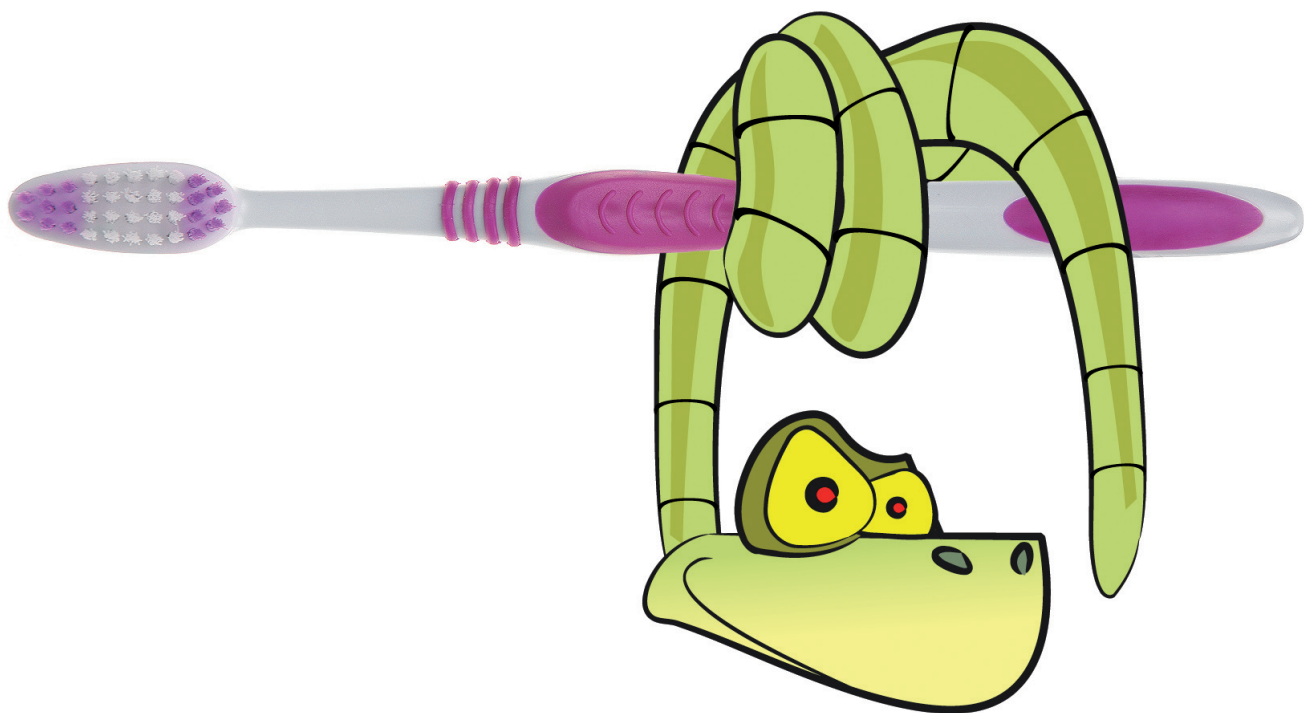
Understanding

This activity is about starting to **understand** homelessness and dental care.

You can use the stickers in this pack to give to the winners.

Why are we doing this?

To get creative and at the same time start to understand the ups and downs of life when you're homeless.



Crisis

Spread a Smile Activity 3

Snakes and Ladders

Snakes

You need to have a filling
You have to have your teeth out
You go to bed but forget to brush your teeth
Your brother needs to have his wisdom teeth out
You lose your front teeth
Smoking causes your neighbours teeth to discolour
You find out you have gum disease
You fall over in the playground and a chip your tooth
You find out you need a root canal filling
You have a nightmare about your teeth falling out
You eat an ice-cream and it hurts your teeth
You find a hole in your filling
You're eating an apple and accidentally bite your tongue
When you brush your teeth your gums bleed
You have lots of plaque on your teeth

Ladders

You've just brushed your teeth and they are squeaky clean
The dentist tells you, you have very white teeth
You've just discovered a new tooth growing
You visit the dentist and don't need any treatment
You floss your teeth regularly
You brush your teeth twice a day
You have fun with your friends and they've all got big smiling faces
You bite into a crisp, juicy apple
You visit the dentist to have your braces removed
The tooth fairy visits you at night
You've just bought a brand new toothbrush
You visit the dentist and get your teeth polished
Get going!

60 minutes

Dig out the board you're going to use. For each snake and ladder, pick a snake or ladder fact from the list over the page. Decide for each snake and ladder on the game, which one you're going to use from the homelessness list over the page.

Play the game with someone reading out the snake or ladder story each time someone lands at the top of a snake or at the bottom of a ladder.

Do you understand why this is a snake or a ladder to a homeless person? Would this be so important to you?

Two meetings

Create your own board. This could be a normal, table-top game size or why not go for a floor-size one, big enough to use real people for the playing pieces? The board should be 10 squares along each side (100 squares altogether). You'll need 5 snakes and 5 ladders from the list over the page. Work together to draw pictures for the squares at the end of each snake and ladder. Don't forget to make some snakes and ladders short and others long. Perhaps the length could be related to how bad or good you think the fact is? What do you think the pictures for squares 1 and 100 should be? What do the playing pieces look like? Be creative!

Play the game with someone reading out the snake or ladder fact each time someone lands at the top of a snake or at the bottom of a ladder.

Do you understand why this is a snake or a ladder to a homeless person?
Would this be so important to you?