

CURIOSITY

Objective: To understand the difference between healthy curiosity and idle curiosity into someone else's affairs.

To recognise how behaviour affects themselves and others.

To understand that family and friends should care for each other.

Key Words: banister, cheating, crept, eavesdropping, keyhole, resist, stunned

Curriculum Links: Citizenship & PSHE at KS1: 1a,b,c. 2a,c. 4a,d (see pages 7/8)

Maths: Use the game to recognise patterns; **Science:** Curiosity to investigate

Literacy: Drama.

Materials needed:

- The Manual or copy of lesson plan
- Silent sitting exercises from the 'Introduction' Manual
- CD player
- CD 1 track 27 (music for silent sitting) or Silent Sitting CD track 5
- CD 1 track 20, or CD M1 track 2, for the song
- Copies of the drama script

QUOTATION/THEME FOR THE WEEK

**IT'S GOOD TO BE CURIOUS,
IT'S GOOD TO EXPLORE,
BUT IT'S NOT GOOD TO LISTEN
BEHIND THE DOOR.**



Discuss what this means. Perhaps the story will make it clearer!

SILENT SITTING

Step 1

Step 2 (See pages 19/20 or page 36 of the 'Introduction' Manual)

Step 5: Imagine you are in a spaceship ...

It is big and comfortable and you feel safe ...

As you speed up towards the stars, you feel excited ...

Look down and see the beautiful world about you ...

See the people going about their daily business ...

You don't know what they are doing, but that is not important ...

You feel peaceful and happy ...

When you are ready, turn your spaceship round and come gently back to earth ...

Land on the soft green grass ...

Smell the freshness of the air around ...

Step 6.

STORY TELLING

NOSY JOSIE

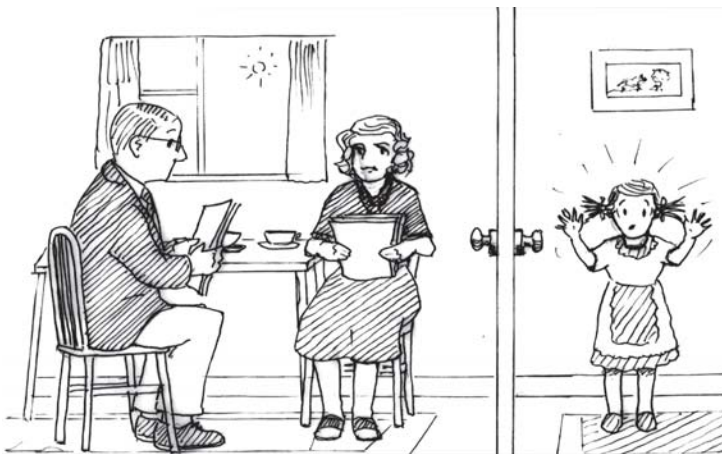
story by Pauline Young

One day Nosy Josie was playing with her toys in her bedroom. She heard the front door bell ring and footsteps as her mum went to open the door and say, "Please come in, Mr Smith. Would you like a cup of tea?"

"That would be very nice, Mary. Thank you."

After a few minutes she saw her mum come back into the hall carrying a tray, with tea and biscuits nicely laid out. Josie quietly made her way down the stairs and over to the door of the room her mother was in, because her favourite pastime was being nosy.

Her mum was always scolding her about it. "It's very rude to listen to other people's conversations, Josie. One day you might not like what you hear."



Josie bent down to look through the keyhole, she hadn't heard everything, but what she did hear sent shivers down her spine as Mr Smith was saying to her mum. "I'm sorry, Mary, but Josie hasn't been truthful with us, she has been telling lies and will have to leave the school."

"That's dreadful," replied Josie's mum. "I suppose you're right, Mr Smith. She must leave."

Josie sat down on the carpet stunned. "I only told my mum I hadn't eaten the chocolate biscuits when I had, but I don't remember telling any lies at school," she thought hard, trying to remember. "I don't want to leave my school and all my friends."

Josie ran back up the stairs and threw herself on her bed crying. "What am I going to do? I won't be able to learn my lessons anymore and I won't be able to read nice books or be with my friends."

After a while, she heard her mum saying good-bye to Mr Smith. She ran down the stairs and into the front room and found her mum quietly reading a letter.

"Mummy, mummy! Don't let them make me leave my school. I'm sorry for eating all the chocolate biscuits, and telling you lies. Please let me stay in my school! All my friends are there."

"Josie, what are you talking about! Of course, I wouldn't make you leave a school where you are happy. Why would you think that?"

Then she realised Josie must have been listening at the keyhole. “Were you listening at the keyhole again to Mr Smith and me talking? What have I told you about that?”

“Yes, mum, I was,” said Josie careful to tell the truth and still crying. “You said you agreed that I would have to leave my school.”

“Josie, first of all you won’t have to leave your school. So wipe your tears and listen to me,” said her mum gently putting an arm around her.

“You know I teach at the college some evenings, don’t you? Mr Smith is the head tutor there and there is a student called, Josie. She has been cheating and telling lies about her work. We found out that she has been getting other students to do her homework for her. When she was questioned about it, she denied it. The student who did the work for her owned up when we asked her if it was true. So you see, Josie, we were talking about someone else, not about you!”

“So you didn’t mean me, after all. Oh mum! I’m so glad I won’t have to leave my school and all my friends there.”

“Now you can see how you can get things wrong, Josie, when you listen to other people’s conversations when you’re not invited to,” said her mum sternly.

“I won’t do it again, mum, I promise.”

“Now about the biscuits, Josie. What have you got to say about that?”

QUESTIONS:

1. Why did Josie always listen at keyholes?
2. Why did she think her mother was talking to Mr. Smith about her?
3. What made her upset?
4. What else had Josie done wrong?
5. How did you feel when you heard the story?
6. Did the story remind you of anything in your own life?

GROUP ACTIVITIES

1. Game: Who’s missing?

Pupils sit in a circle.

Choose one pupil to be **A**. **A** goes out.

Choose someone to be **B**. Then **B** leaves by another door.

Everyone changes places.

A comes in and looks to see who is missing.

If **A** guesses correctly, **B** then becomes **A** and goes out.

Choose a new pupil to be **B**

2. DRAMA

NOSY JOSIE

The scene is set in Josie's home

Cast: Narrator
Josie
Josie's mother, Mary
Mr. Smith

Narrator: One day Josie was playing with her toys in her bedroom.

Josie: There goes the front doorbell. I wonder who it can be? And those must be Mum's footsteps going to open the door. I wonder what it's about? If I creep out into the hallway very quietly and peep over the banisters, perhaps I can find out without Mum knowing [*creeps on to the landing and peeps through the banisters*].

Mother: Please come in, Mr. Smith. Would you like a cup of tea, or something?

Mr Smith: That would be very nice, Mary. Thank you.

Josie: Mum is showing a man into the front room. I wonder who he is? Now she's disappeared into the kitchen.

Narrator: After a few minutes, Josie saw her Mum come back into the hall carrying a tray laid out with the best china teapot, two china cups and saucers and a plate of ginger biscuits. Her mother went into the front room and shut the door behind her.

Josie: I wonder what they're talking about? I'll slip quietly down the stairs and listen at the door. I know I should wait until I can ask Mum, but I want to find out now. And anyway, Mum might not tell me.

Mother: [*flashback*] It's very rude to listen to other people's conversations, Josie. I've told you that more than once. One day you might not like what you hear.

Narrator: But Josie couldn't resist it. She bent down to look through the keyhole at Mr. Smith. He was talking to her Mum.

Mr Smith: I'm sorry, Mary, but Josie hasn't been truthful with us. She has been telling lies and will have to leave the school.

Mother: That's dreadful. But I suppose you're right, Mr. Smith. If that's true, then I agree, she must leave.

Narrator: Josie sat down on the carpet stunned.

Josie: I only told my Mum that I hadn't eaten the chocolate biscuits when I had. Now they're making me leave my school and all my friends!

Narrator: Josie ran back up the stairs and threw herself on her bed, crying.

Josie: What am I going to do? I won't be able to learn my lessons anymore and I won't be able to read interesting books when I grow up!

Narrator: After Mr. Smith had left, her mother went to see what Josie was doing and found her crying. Her mother ran over and put an arm round her.

Mother: Josie, whatever is the matter? Why are you upset?

Josie: Mummy! Mummy! Please don't be angry with me. Don't make me leave my school. I'm sorry for eating all the chocolate biscuits and telling you lies. Please let me stay in my school. All my friends are there.

Mother: Josie, what are you talking about? Why would you have to leave your school? Have you been listening at the keyhole again? Were you listening to Mr. Smith and me? It's a good thing to want to find out things, but eavesdropping at keyholes is very bad manners! And you only hear half the story, anyway, so you end up getting it all wrong!

Josie: *[still crying]* Yes, Mum, I was. You said I would have to leave my school...

Mother: *[gently]* Josie, hush now. Listen to me. First of all, you won't have to leave your school. So wipe your tears, dear, and I'll explain. You know I teach at the college some evenings, don't you? Well, Mr. Smith is the head teacher there and there is a student called Josie. She has been cheating and telling lies about her work. We've found out that she has been getting other students to do her homework for her. When she was questioned about it, she denied it. But the student who did the work for her owned up when we asked her if it was true. So you see, Josie, we were talking about someone else, not about you.

Josie: You weren't talking about me! Oh Mum, I'm so glad I won't have to leave my school and all my friends there!

Mother: So now you can see how you can get things wrong, Josie, when you listen to other people's conversations when you're not invited to.

Josie: *[audibly relieved]* I won't do it again, Mum. I promise!

Mother: Now about those chocolate biscuits, Josie. What have you got to say about that?

QUESTION: How do you feel when you heard, saw or acted in the drama?

GROUP SINGING

IT'S SPLENDID

(music by Stuart Jones, lyrics by Sara John)

It's splendid, it's super,
It's really super duper,
How we always end up doing the right thing.
When we give a thought to caring,
We always feel like sharing
And the happiness that comes
You can't compare to any other thing.
Others are so happy
When we put others first, and then
We become the winners
Spreading love and peace and harmony.
Helping other creatures, also people, that will teach us
That to grow in life is reaching unity
For you and me.

It's splendid, it's super,
It's really super duper,
How we always end up doing the right thing.
When there seems to be disaster,
We split our sides with laughter
For a problem can be solved with fun,
It's joy to life we want to bring.
What's the use in crying,
It's more fun if we start trying,
To transform ourselves
And turn into a being full of selflessness.
Giving and receiving, never taking or deceiving
We can turn this world
Into a ball of bliss and happiness.

(Repeat both verses)

Close the lesson: If the teacher wishes, the lesson can be closed by asking the children to form a circle and say, "Let us keep ourselves happy by finding out about new things, but not about other people's business."