

WORK SHEET – EXERCISE 8D

Story: The deaf frog



Here's an old story to think about the words that help us persevere, even when we encounter obstacles and setbacks.

In the frog world, a race is organised once a year.

Every year the race had a different finishing line. That year, the participants of the race had to reach the top of an old tower.

Many spectators, and all the frogs from the pond too, gathered around to support the hoppers and watch them race up the tower.

And then the race began... Once the race had started, the spectators began to believe that it was impossible for the frogs to reach the top of the tower.

All the comments you could hear sounded something like this:

"Just look at how much they're sweating!!! They'll never make it!"

"Impossible! They'll never reach the top!"

"Their bodies just aren't made for a race like this!"

"It looks like they'll die before reaching the top!"

The frogs began to feel discouraged, one after the other.

Many gave up, except for a few who bravely continued to climb the tower, encouraging each other on.

"Stay strong, froggy sisters. We trained hard for this. Keep it up."

But at the bottom of the tower the spectators continued to shout:

"It's completely useless! No one can make it! Look! Almost everyone has given up!"

And the last few frogs admitted defeat, except for one who kept climbing in spite of everyone and everything. Alone, and with an enormous amount of effort, she reached the top of the tower...

Her fellow frogs were stunned. They wanted to know how she managed to do it.

One of them went up to her to ask how she had aced the race. And it was then that her competitor discovered that... the winning frog... was.... deaf!

Don't listen to people that make a habit out of being negative... because they will prevent you from making progress. Remember the power of the POSITIVE and ENCOURAGING words you say or hear.

Here are some questions that can be part of a discussion or debate with the group.

1. What do you take from this story?
2. Are you sometimes like those discouraging or discouraged frogs?
3. What happens in your body? Who else feels that in their bodies?
4. What do you think of the victorious frog?
5. What do you learn from this story?
6. How can you encourage someone to hold on?