

## Lesson Plan Activity 4

### The Script - The Breath of Courage.

#### SYNOPSIS

*This script addresses the dangers of bullying and the importance of understanding and compassion towards others.*

#### CHARACTERS

Jamie

Alex

Marley – Alex's friend

Charlie – Alex's friend

Riley – Classmate

Rory – Classmate

Teacher

#### Scene 1: The Schoolyard

The scene opens in a schoolyard where kids are playing. JAMIE, a 10-year-old with asthma, is sitting on a bench holding his puffer and spacer. Riley and Rory are sitting together not far away from Jamie and are eating their lunch together. Alex and his friends Marley and Charlie, other 10-year-olds, approaches.

ALEX:	(Mocking) What's that? Your little magic puff? <i>(Marley and Charlie laugh behind Alex)</i>
MARLEY:	That's so sad



CHARLIE:	It looks really weird...
JAMIE:	<i>(looks down, embarrassed, holding their puffer and spacer)</i> It's for my asthma...
ALEX:	(Laughing) Oh, watch out! Jamie's gonna puff away!
MARLEY:	Puff away hahahaha
CHARLIE:	Thats a good one – Puff away hahahaha
ALEX:	C'mon let's go!

*Alex, Marley and Charlie walk away, laughing. Jamie looks hurt and puts the puffer and spacer away. Riley and Rory have witnessed what happened. They say the following to the audience.*

RILEY:	He looks sad, but if I say anything, they might turn on me.
RORY:	He's so weird, he deserves to be made fun of.
RILEY:	If I don't look over there, it isn't really happening.
RORY:	I just want it to stop.
RILEY:	Why are they making fun of him?

## Scene 2: Classroom

*JAMIE is sitting at their desk, breathing heavily. They glance at their bag, where the puffer and spacer are hidden.*

JAMIE:	(Thinking) I can't use it now... everyone will laugh.
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*Riley and Rory are sitting next to each other, and they notice Jamie looking at their bag then looking away. They give each other a look and shrug.*

*Jamie struggles through the day, trying to hide their difficulty breathing – Jamie walks around slowly and takes deep breaths.*

### **Scene 3: The Schoolyard, The Next Day**

JAMIE is again sitting alone, trying to catch their breath without using their puffer. Suddenly, JAMIE starts wheezing heavily and collapses.

Riley	(Panicked) What's wrong with Jamie?!
Rory	(Scared) I don't know! Help!

*A Teacher rushes over, wakes Jamie and then gives them their puffer spacer to help them breathe. JAMIE is taken to the hospital.*

**The end.**

Alternative endings available on the next page.



Alternative endings to discuss with students and/or rehearse and perform.

#### Scene 4: Hospital Room

JAMIE is lying in a hospital bed, with their PARENTS and a DOCTOR beside them.

DOCTOR:	<i>(Seriously)</i> Jamie, you were lucky this time. You must use your puffer and spacer when you need it, no matter what others say.
JAMIE:	<i>(Nods)</i> I understand now. It's not worth risking my life over what someone else thinks.

#### Scene 5: Schoolyard, One Week Later

JAMIE is back at school. ALEX approaches, looking sheepish.

ALEX:	Hey... I heard what happened. I'm sorry for teasing you about your puffer. It was dumb.
JAMIE:	<i>(Bravely)</i> Yeah, it was. But it's okay. I hope now you understand why I need it.
ALEX:	<i>(Nods)</i> I do. Can we be friends?
JAMIE:	<i>(Smiles)</i> Sure. But let's make sure we're kind friends, okay?

JAMIE and ALEX shake hands, as the scene fades out.

