

The

C

Word

When Kids Get **CANCER**



LEUKEMIA &
LYMPHOMA
SOCIETY
OF CANADA®



What is **CANCER**

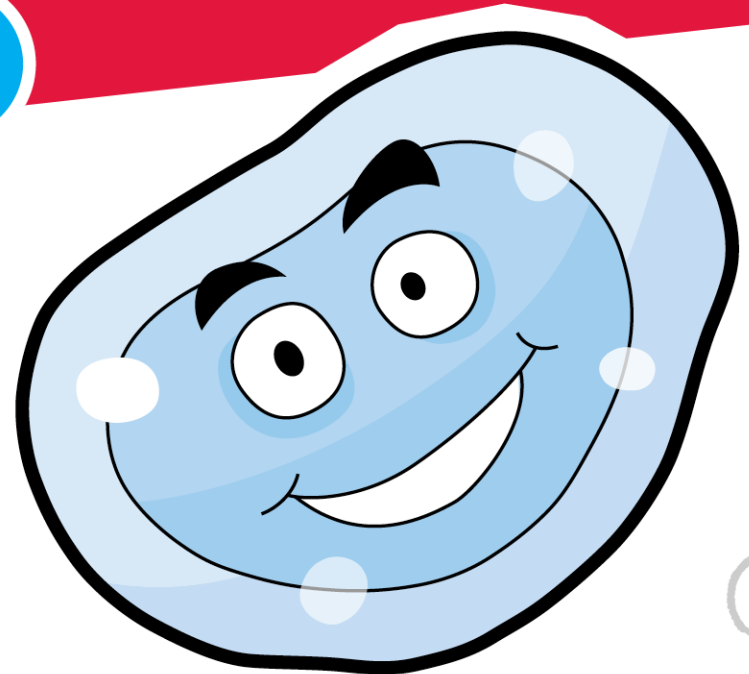


To answer
this question
we need to
learn a little
about what
goes on inside
our bodies...

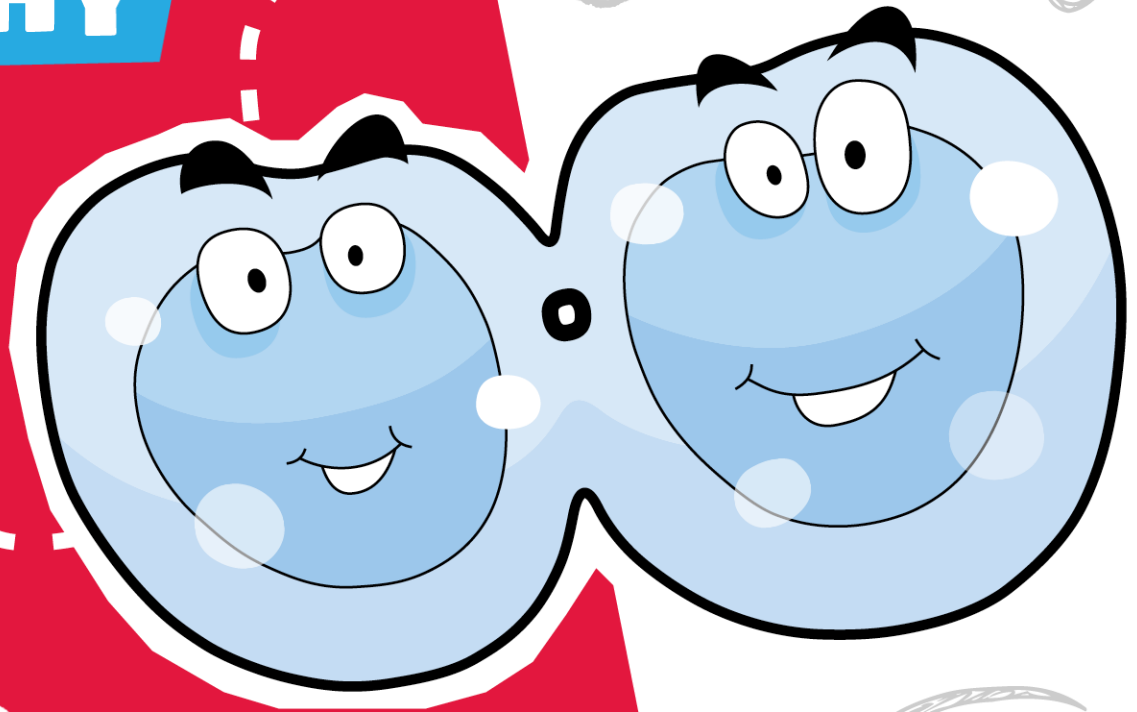
CELLS are the **BUILDING** **BLOCKS** of our **BODIES**

We are made up of
TRILLIONS of cells

Cells have different jobs
and behave in different
ways in our bodies



CELLS are
always **DIVIDING**
and **MAKING**
new **HEALTHY**
CELLS



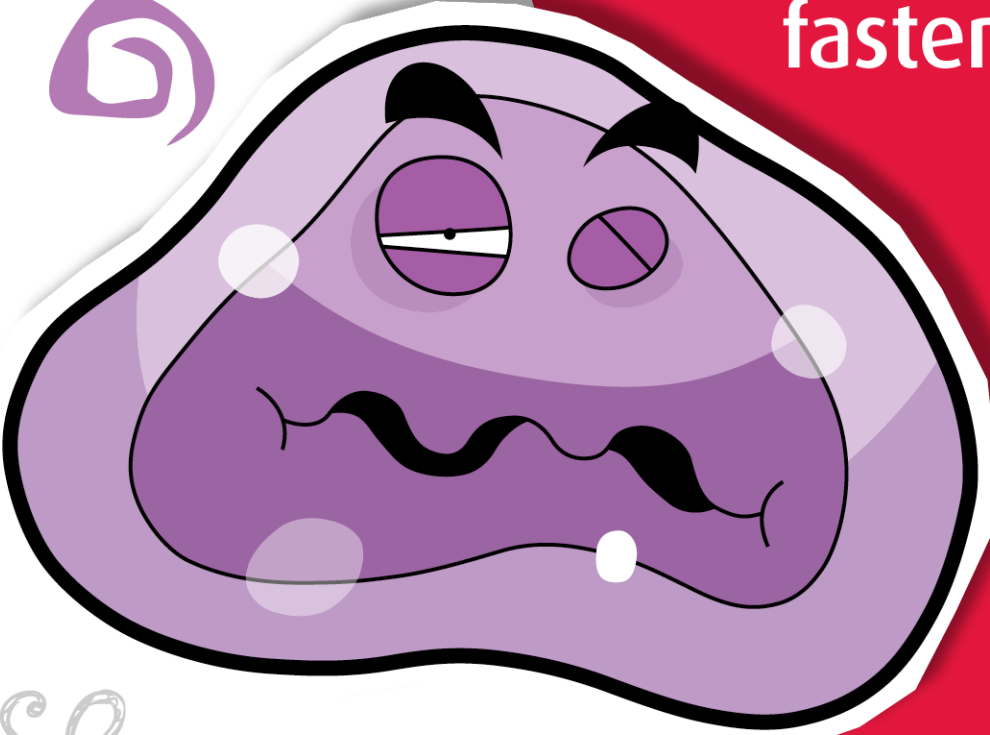


CANCER happens
when a cell starts making



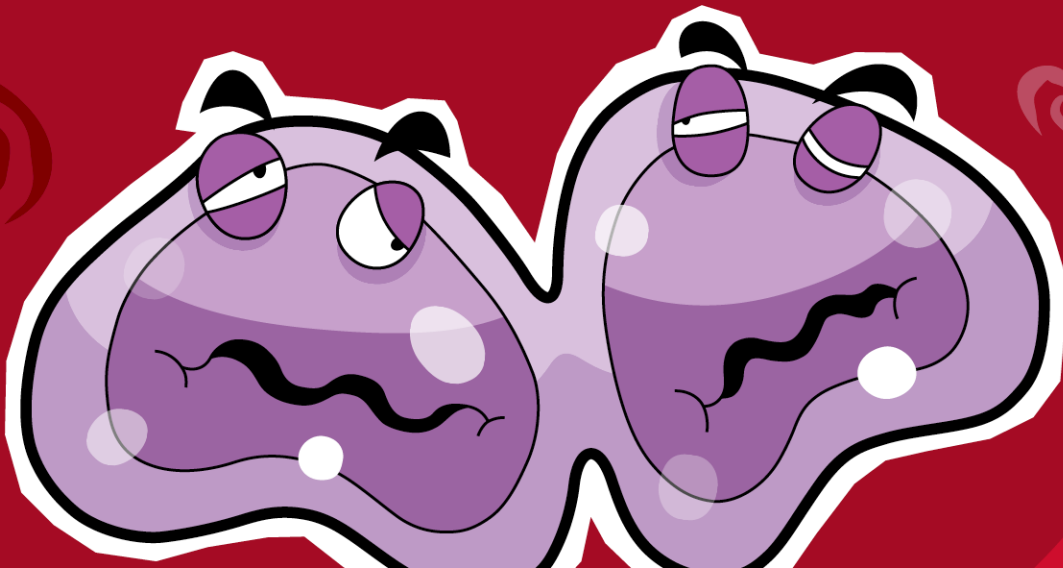
SICK CELLS

faster than healthy ones



There are many
different types of
cancers depending
on where the sick
cells are in our
bodies

When the cells in our blood
divide and make **SICK**
CANCER CELLS
this is called
LEUKEMIA



This is the type
of cancer that
kids get most
often



Why do
KIDS get
CANCER ?



We
**DON'T
KNOW**

...





We **DO KNOW** that it
does not happen very often

You can't "**CATCH**" cancer,
it is **NOT** like a **COLD**





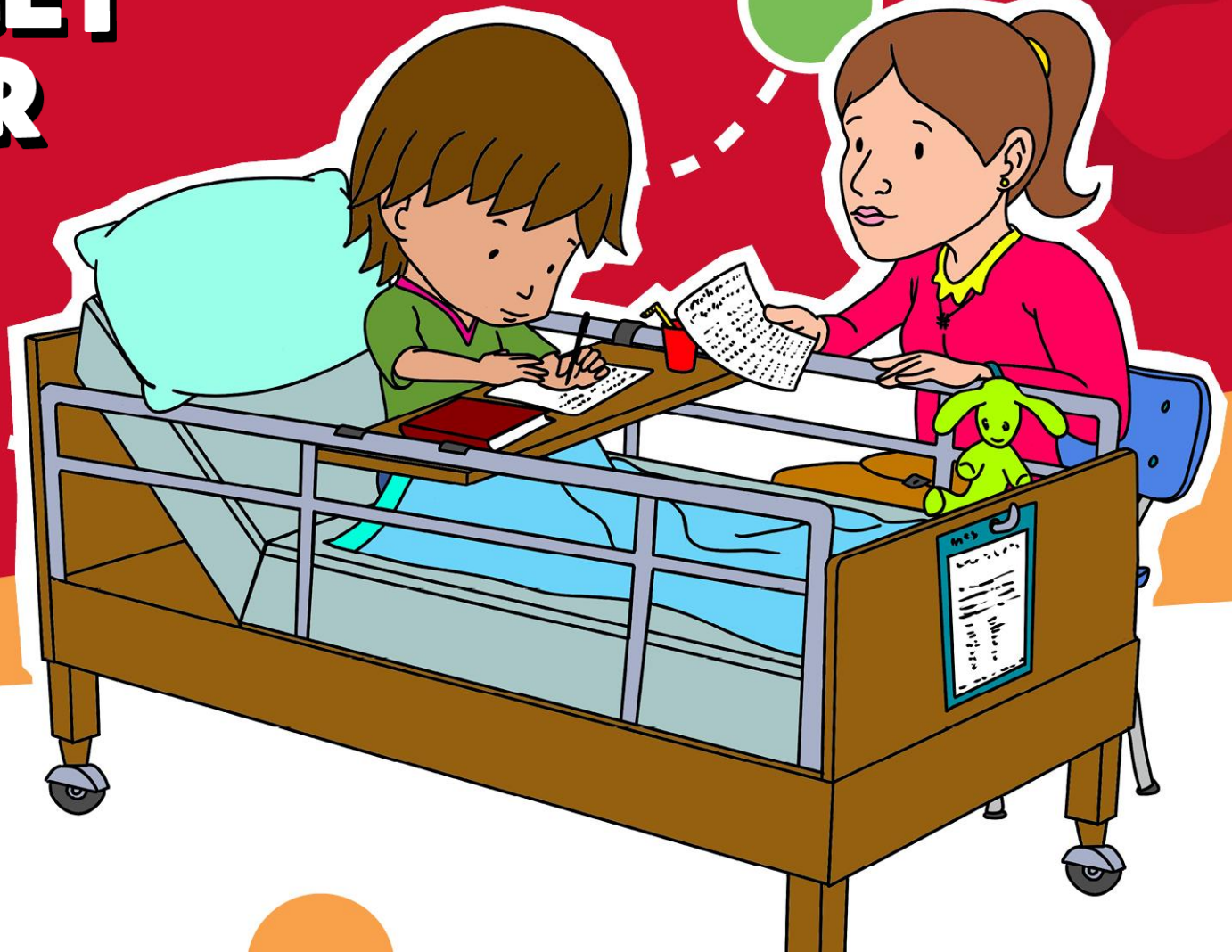
You **DON'T** get
CANCER from

a **PERSON**,

a **PLACE** or by

MISBEHAVING

The **GOOD NEWS** is that most
kids who get cancer
**WILL GET
BETTER**





How **DO** Kids
Get **BETTER**



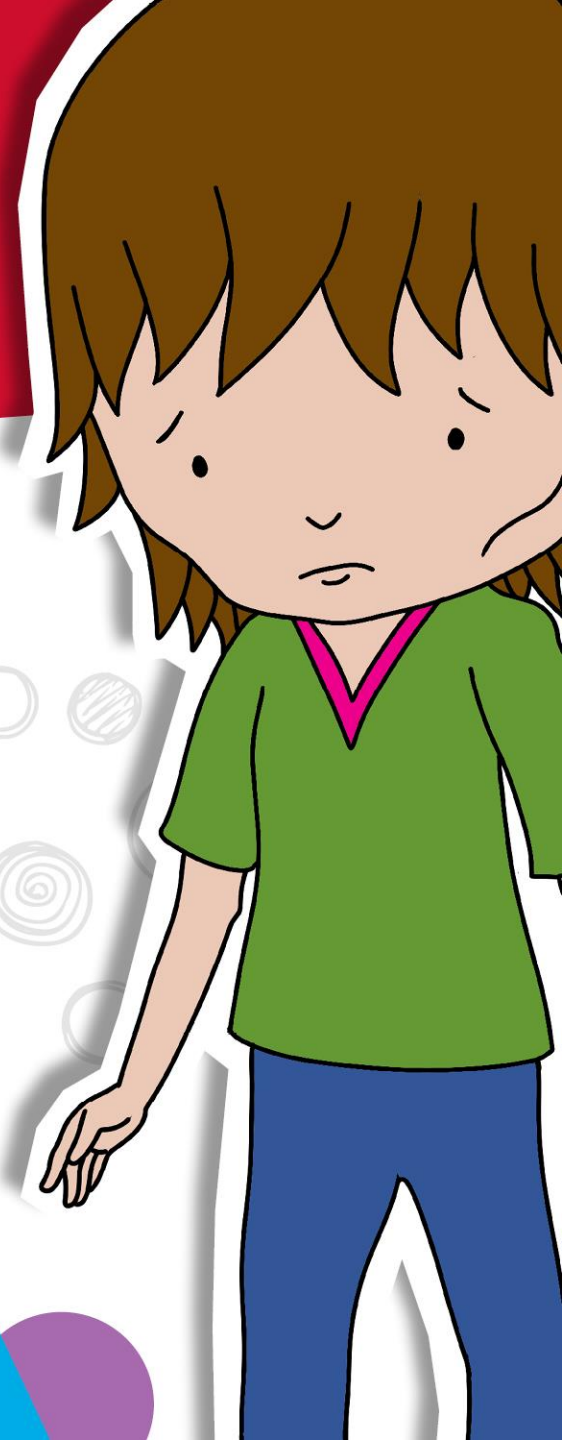
Doctors use **2** special kinds
of **TREATMENTS** to help
kids get better

Chemotherapy

Strong medicines that kill
sick cancer cells and stop
them from coming back

Radiation

Strong beams of energy
that are aimed at the cancer
cells to destroy them

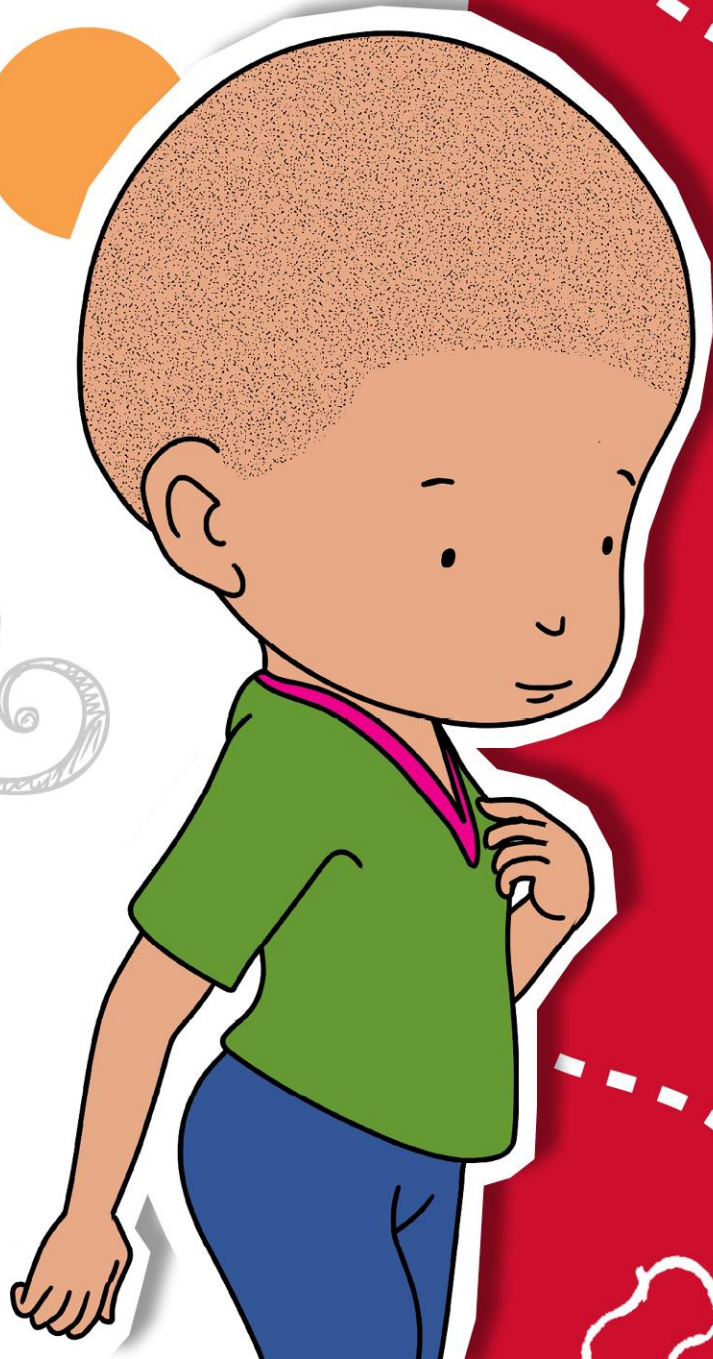


Sometimes
the **CANCER**
MEDICINES
do extra things
like...



- Make hair fall out
- Make you feel extra tired
- Make your face puffy or rounder





The good news
is that these extra
**THINGS WILL
GO AWAY**
in time so it is
important to
BE PATIENT

How Can Kids **HELP** ?



STAY IN TOUCH with your **FRIEND** who is **AWAY** from school



Send cards

Make a book of jokes

Make a video letter

Create a class journal

ASK if you can **VISIT**
your **FRIEND** at home
or in the **HOSPITAL**



An illustration of two young children, a girl and a boy, standing and holding hands. The girl on the left has brown hair and is wearing a green shirt with a pink V-neck and blue pants. The boy on the right has brown hair and is wearing a blue shirt with a green V-neck and green pants. They are both smiling and looking at each other. The background is red with a white dashed line forming a large heart shape. There are also some colorful circles (purple, orange, green) and a white heart outline on the right side.

Be **KIND** and
GENTLE with
your friend

Remember they are the
same person, but may not
be able to do all the things,
in the same way they did
before they were sick

A cartoon illustration of a young child with brown hair, wearing a green shirt and blue pants, sitting on a red chair at a yellow desk. The child is writing on a notepad with a pen. On the desk, there are two stacks of colorful books. The background is red with white dashed lines and colorful shapes like a blue circle, a green circle, and a grey spiral.

Learn more about kids and **BLOOD CANCERS**

bloodcancers.ca



LLS1178



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Adapted from Children's Hospital,
London Health Sciences Centre Pediatric
Cancer School Support Program

Made possible
with support from



Canada Post
**Community
Foundation**