

What Are Drugs?

Chapter 5 Lesson 1
Part 1

ByDesign Science, Level 4
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Legal and Illegal Drugs

- ♦ Cough syrup. Beer. Allergy medicine. Marijuana, Wine. Cigarettes. Nicotine. Caffeine.
- ♦ They seem so different. Yet, each of these substances is a drug.
- ♦ A **drug** changes the body's functions and affects the body, mind, or behavior.
- ♦ Each of these substances does that.



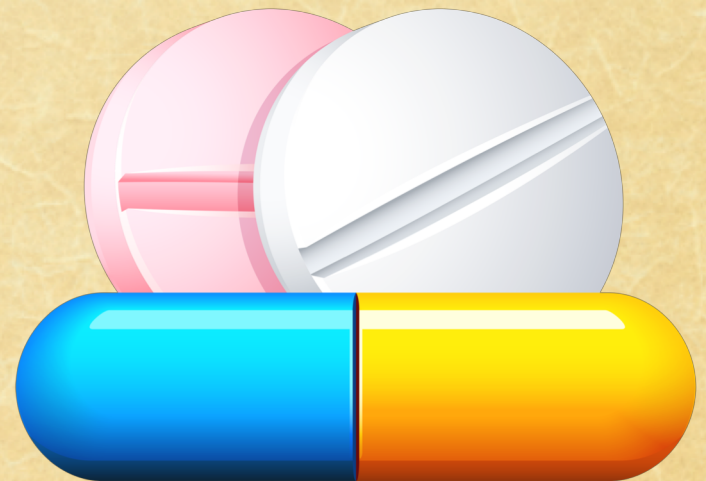
Legal and Illegal Drugs



- ♦ Medicines are legal drugs, which means the law allows them to be used.
 - ♦ A *medicine* is a drug that can help protect people from sickness or treat or cure a sickness.
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- ♦ Medicines can save lives and help people who are sick.

Legal and Illegal Drugs

- ♦ Medicines are helpful drugs, if they are used the correct way.
- ♦ You need to be careful with medicines. They can be dangerous if taken the wrong way.
- ♦ You should never take more of a medicine than is prescribed.



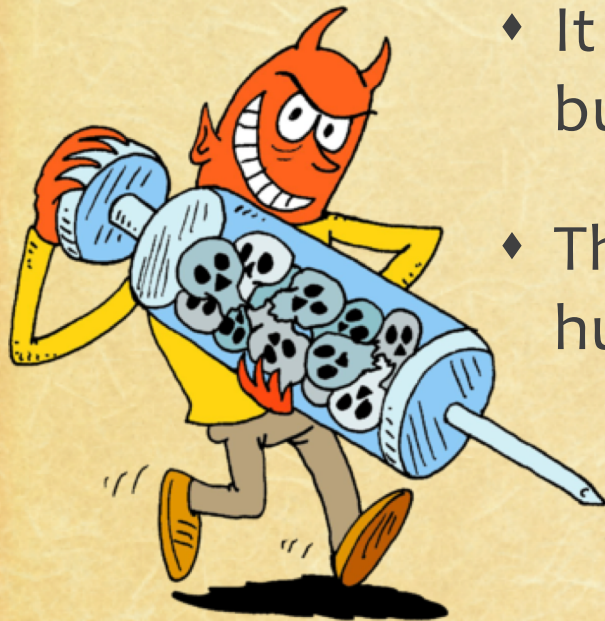
Legal and Illegal Drugs

- ♦ You should never take medicines prescribed for someone else, either.
- ♦ It is against the law to do both these things.
- ♦ Medicines that are meant to be helpful can be used in harmful or dangerous ways.



Legal and Illegal Drugs

- ♦ Some drugs are against the law. These drugs are called *illegal drugs*.



If you abuse drugs,
they will abuse you

- ♦ It is against the law to have, sell, buy, or use illegal drugs.
- ♦ They have serious effects on the human body.
- ♦ Illegal drugs cause many deaths every year.

Legal and Illegal Drugs



- ♦ Drugs move through the body and affect certain organs, such as the brain or liver.
- ♦ Sometimes organs are damaged, so they do not function as they were designed.
- ♦ The heart may stop beating or the person may stop breathing.

Legal and Illegal Drugs

- ♦ Drugs can be very powerful and dangerous if not used properly.
- ♦ For example, medicines, which are legal drugs, can be used illegally.
- ♦ It is against the law to take a medicine that a doctor prescribed for someone else.
- ♦ It is also dangerous to do this.



Classifying Drugs

- ♦ One way that drugs can be classified is by how they affect the body.
- ♦ Class of Drug: Analgesic
 - ♦ Reduces pain
 - ♦ Examples: acetaminophen, aspirin, ibuprofen



Classifying Drugs

- ♦ One way that drugs can be classified is by how they affect the body.
- ♦ Class of Drug: Depressant
 - ♦ Slows down the nervous system; reduces heart rate and breathing rate; relaxes the body; causes sleepiness
 - ♦ Examples: alcohol, inhalants, marijuana (illegal drug)



Classifying Drugs



- ♦ One way that drugs can be classified is by how they affect the body.
- ♦ Class of Drug: Stimulant
 - ♦ Speeds up the nervous system; increases heart rate, breathing rate, and blood pressure
 - ♦ Examples: caffeine, cocaine (illegal drug), nicotine (in tobacco)

Classifying Drugs

- ♦ One way that drugs can be classified is by how they affect the body.



- ♦ Class of Drug: Hallucinogen
 - ♦ Affects the senses and causes a person to see, feel, or hear things that do not exist
 - ♦ Examples: ecstasy (illegal drug), LSD (illegal drug), marijuana (illegal drug)

Review

1. What is a drug?
 - ♦ changes the body's functions and affects the body, mind, or behavior
2. What is a medicine?
 - ♦ A legal drug that can help protect people from sickness, or treat or cure a sickness
3. What two things should you never do with your medicine?
 - ♦ Never take more than is prescribed
 - ♦ Never take (or give) medicine that belongs to someone else

Review

4. What is an illegal drug?
 - ♦ A drug that it is illegal to sell, buy, or use
5. What can illegal drugs do to your body?
 - ♦ Can damage organs so badly they do not function properly
 - ♦ The heart may stop beating
 - ♦ The person may stop breathing