

THINKING ABOUT STICKY SITUATIONS

Sometimes we feel trapped when we've done something wrong. We feel scared that we'll get caught but too scared to ask for help. We are afraid that we will get blamed, instead of getting the help we need.

At COPA, we know that one of the hardest things for anyone to do is admit they made a mistake and to stand up for what they know is right, especially when they aren't being supported by their peers.

In *A Sticky Situation*, Fones is in this kind of situation and feels cornered.

We believe that all of us can be creative and come up with ideas for dealing with problems, especially if we have the support and guidance of trusted friends and family in our lives.

We want you to consider some questions here that may help you figure out how to think about a sticky situation when you or your friends find yourselves in one!

IN ORDER TO AVOID ASSIGNING A GENDER TO THE CHARACTERS, WE USE 'THEY' AND NOT 'SHE' OR 'HE'.

QUESTIONS FOR STUDENTS

- What do you think Fones was feeling when the other kids had money to go to eat out?
- How do you think Fones felt about being encouraged to steal? How do you think the situation could have been handled differently?
- Can you have more than one feeling at the same time?
- Does it take more strength to do what the group wants or to do what we know is right for ourselves?
- If everyone likes Fones for stealing the gum why is Fones unhappy?
- Do you ever have days where it feels like everything is going wrong?
- Who would you tell if you did something wrong and needed help?
- How hard is it to take a chance losing a friendship when our friend wants us to do something that doesn't feel good to us?
- What do you think of Fones' way of handling the problem pressured to steal again?
- Have you ever been in a situation like Fones? What did it feel like? How did you deal with it?
- Why did Keenly get mad at Fones? Why did Keenly change the way they were talking to Fones?
- What do you think Keenly did well? What could Keenly have done better to help Fones out?
- Did it help, do you think, that the teacher offered to help Fones?