# Comic Strip (10-15 mins)

This activity is suitable for school and community groups and can be found in the [KS2 lesson plan](http://www.e-bug.eu/en-gb/ks2-antibiotics) “Antibiotics”. This activity will help participants understand correct uses of antibiotics, including when they should not be taken and why.

## Use the introduction in the KS2 lesson plan to discuss:

* Harmful microbes can make us ill. Ask participants about their own experiences of being ill, what was the illness, how did they feel, and what treatment did they receive? Did they go to the doctor or did they get something from the pharmacy?
* Explain that inside our bodies we have an immune system that fights harmful microbes. If we get plenty of sleep and eat properly, we keep our immune system strong and it keeps fighting the harmful microbes.
* Explain that sometimes, if a lot of harmful microbes get into the body, the immune system may need help. This is when we need medicine.
* Explain that different types of medicines are used to treat the symptoms of different infections e.g. cough remedies, painkillers, and medicines to reduce fever.
* Highlight to participants that antibiotics are special medicines that are used to treat only bacterial infections. Antibiotics make us better by killing the harmful bacteria that make us ill. Explain to participants that different antibiotics kill different types of bacteria therefore we should not use other people’s antibiotics because they might not work; we should only take antibiotics given to us by a clinician.
* Explain that if we are advised to take antibiotics by a clinician it is important to take them as prescribed, for the number of days and at the correct times. If not, we may not kill all the harmful bacteria and have problems in the future.

## Before you begin you will need:

* Lesson plan for KS2 Antibiotics, available on the website link [here](http://www.e-bug.eu/en-gb/ks2-antibiotics)

## Use the following steps as a guide to implement this activity:

* Each section of the comic strip has a situation with a decision that needs to be taken. The words spoken by the decision maker are in italics to highlight them.
* Show each box to the participants or as individual boxes on the white board or overhead projector and discuss whether the decision maker has made the right or wrong choice.
* Use the discussion points to stimulate a group discussion on whether the decision maker has made the right choice or not and explain why.

**Use the plenary or discussion questions to check participant’s understanding after the activity is completed.**