

## KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT

**Focus:** Equal Opportunities for Pupils

**Synopsis**

Ada has a hearing problem and tries to follow the class lesson through a friend but ends up being punished for distracting the class.

Kwame is teaching and Efe and Ada are seated at the back. Efe explains the lesson to Ada in low tones. Kwame does not like to hear the talking and commands Ada to come out. Ada cannot hear and so stays put making Kwame feel she's being insolent. Efe nudges Ada to go to the front and Kwame angrily orders her to kneel down facing the wall. He then dismisses the class for break.

Kwame tells Ada that she has committed two offences: making noise and disrespecting him and proceeds to punish her. Then Efe, who had been hanging around summoned the courage to ask Kwame to stop, desperately explaining that Ada is physically challenged (hearing impediment) and cannot hear from the back, so needs someone closer to explain what the teacher is saying from the front. Kwame is embarrassed that he had not noticed the situation.