

**MOST**  
FARIBAULT  
STUDENTS  
MAKE GREAT  
CHOICES

**MOST**  
NORTHFIELD  
STUDENTS  
MAKE GREAT  
CHOICES

# Most students don't misuse medicines.

## Discussion Questions

- What do you think the term "misuse medicines" means? What might be some examples?  
*(Keep in mind over-the-counter medications, such as cough syrup.)*
- If a doctor prescribes a medication, how important is it to follow the doctor's instructions for use? What might be the harm in using a medication differently from what the instructions say?
- Just because a doctor prescribes a medicine, doesn't make the drug safe to use in the wrong way. How is misusing medicines similar to using alcohol or other drugs? Is it different?
- Why shouldn't we take other people's medications? Why shouldn't we allow others to take our medications?
- How can you avoid getting into a situation where people are misusing medicines? What should you do if you know about someone who is doing this?
- Discuss safety measures for prescription drugs. Include ideas about safe use, safe storage, and safe disposal.

## Activities

- Have students help their parents or grandparents collect unneeded or outdated medicine. Instruct students to go with their parents to the *Take it to the Box* disposal site at the Faribault and Northfield Police Stations.
- Cut words, pictures, images of out old magazines. Create a collage about not misusing medicines.
- Make a poster encouraging community members to participate in the *Take It to the Box* program.
- Develop a board game that highlights the various safety measures for prescription and over-the-counter drugs.
- View the video "Prescription Drug Abuse in Rice County"  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zOnjIRazuBA>

## Resources

- A local internet source about prescription drug use:  
<http://ricecountyhc.com/take-it-to-the-box-medication-disposal/>
- [www.abovetheinfluence.com/](http://www.abovetheinfluence.com/)
- <http://teens.drugabuse.gov/>