

# MARY

It may be best to use this story on an individual basis.

Mary is 13 years old and loves to play football with her brothers John and Michael.

Mary is staying on holidays with her Auntie Joan and her cousin Ann who is 16 years old. Before going to bed, they are up in Ann's bedroom listening to music. Mary goes to use the toilet, but needs help with the zip on her new pair of trousers as it has got stuck. Mary calls in to Ann to help her undo her zip. Ann helps Mary with her zip and remains in the bathroom. Mary feels embarrassed and before pulling down her trousers, Mary tells Ann that she can manage by herself. She is hoping that Ann will leave, but Ann says "It's ok, I'll wait for you".

When they return to the bedroom, they start getting ready to go to bed. When Mary takes off her trousers, Ann says that she needs to check that Mary has dried herself properly and tries to put her hand between Mary's legs.

Mary pushes Ann away and tells her that she has dried herself properly and that she does not want Ann to touch her private parts.

## **SOME POINTS FOR INITIAL DISCUSSION – OTHERS WILL EMERGE**

**Should Ann have tried to touch Mary's private parts?**

**Why not?**

**What could Mary do?**

**How might Mary feel?**

**Did Ann do something wrong?**

**Why?**

**What should Mary do?**

## **Bathroom etiquette - personal privacy - respect for the privacy of others.**

Mary is upset and confused and decides to tell her Auntie Joan the next morning. Mary's Auntie Joan tells her that Ann was only trying to help and that she shouldn't worry. Mary still feels upset and when her mum phones later that morning Mary says that she wants to go home. Mary's mum knows that something must have upset her and agrees to come and take her home.

On the way home Mary tells her mum what happened with Ann. Mary's Mum says she is glad that Mary told her and that what Ann did was wrong. Mary's Mum reassures her that she won't be going to stay with Ann again and that she will talk to Auntie Joan about what happened.

## **DISCUSSION**

**Why might it be difficult for Mary to tell?**

**Was Mary right to tell?**

**Who would you tell if you had a worry?**

Completion of the evaluation form will prove useful in future discussion as to the effectiveness of the materials and how they might be developed.