



# Feeling down

Adapted Step Up Booklet



Losing  
your  
temper

I'm sad  
I can't  
go out

I feel  
lonely

I am  
tired

I want  
to cry

I do not  
want  
to get up

Everything  
seems  
bad

I cannot be  
bothered

It is  
difficult  
to have fun

# Feeling down:

## George's story

George felt sad during the lockdown. He couldn't go out to his volunteering and he couldn't see his mom. He felt better when he started seeing his mom again and he began using the computer to see his friends. But he still misses going out to his activities and he gets fed up being at home most days. He feels down again.

Everyone feels down at times. We feel down if something bad happens. Like losing a friend, or having no money. Often, we feel better after a day or two. But sometimes it lasts longer.

There are other names for feeling down. Some people call it depression. What do you call it?

## What does it feel like?

Sometimes we feel down all the time. It feels like every day is bad. This feeling can last a long time. Other people notice we are feeling down.

Each person feels down in different ways. 1 or 2 things can change. Or everything can seem different.



# What do you notice when you feel down?

Here are some problems people can have when they feel down.

Tick the box to show what things change when you feel down.

	Yes 	No 
Low energy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tiredness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Problems sleeping	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not wanting to talk to people on the phone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feeling lonely	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not interested in food	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feeling fed up	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Losing our temper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Crying a lot	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No interest in doing things	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aches and pains	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feeling unsure about things	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

What other things change when you feel down?

## What makes us feel down?

Sometimes we know what is getting us down. It can be small things or big things that upset us.

### Catherine's Story

Catherine did not know why she was feeling down again. She spoke to her sister on the phone.

She had been getting on really well in the new house she moved to when her mom died. She had also started going to clubs, which she enjoyed. But everything stopped because of the COVID lockdown. She felt better when she started going out again. However, now she worries about getting sick with COVID or that her sister will catch it. And she still misses her clubs and seeing her friends. She doesn't know what to do.



# What makes you feel down?

Tick the boxes if these things have made you feel down.

	Yes 	No 
Being ill	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other people being ill	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other people being unkind to you	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Someone close to you dying	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Being bullied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not seeing your friends/family	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feeling lonely	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not having much money	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Having nothing to do	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arguing with other people	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Having little or no support any more	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

There might be other things that make you feel down.

Sometimes we do not know why we feel down. Nothing upsetting has happened. We just start feeling down.

## Talk to someone

When we feel down it is difficult to know what to do. Support from other people is important. They can help us find ways to feel better. Get someone you trust to help you. Ask a friend, family member or worker.

**People I can speak to about my problems:**

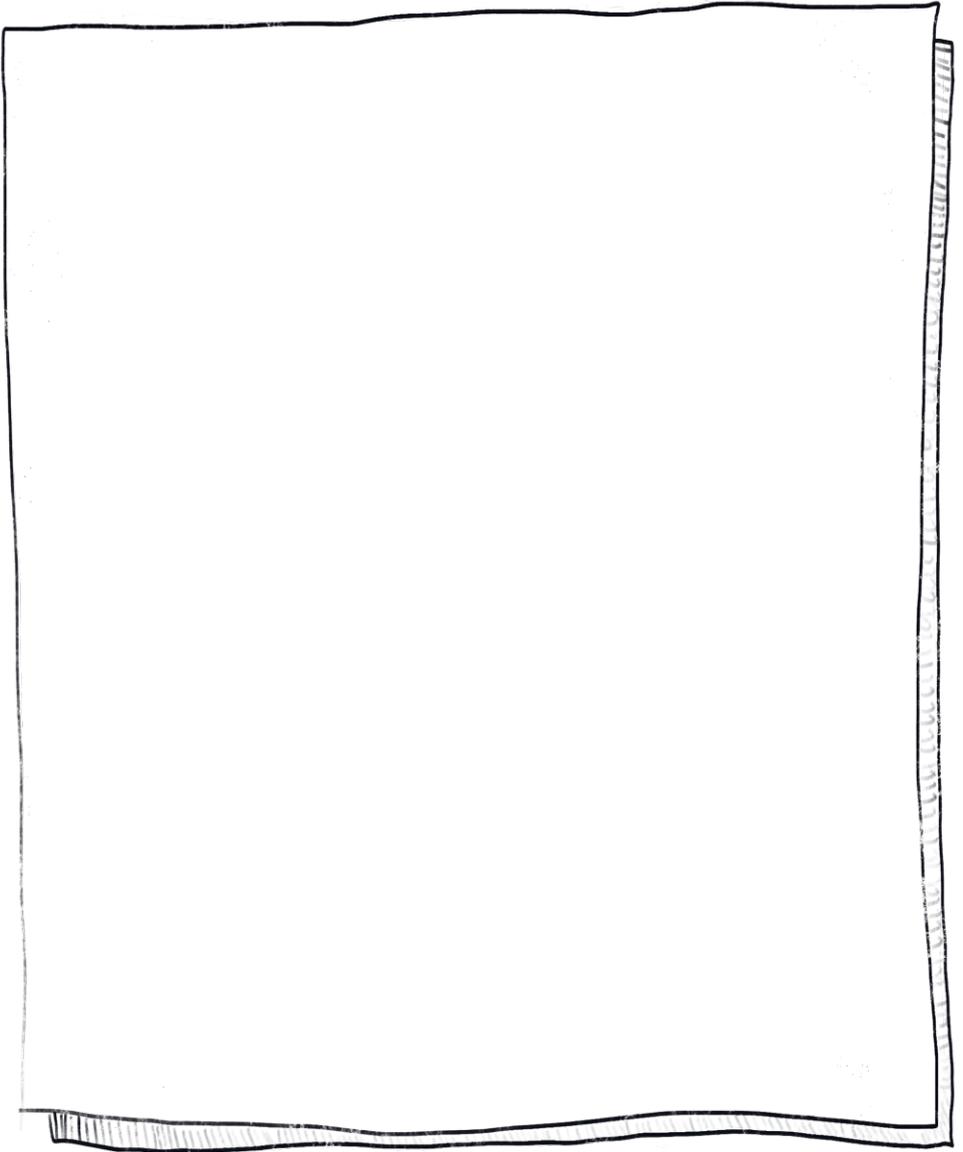


## More good ideas

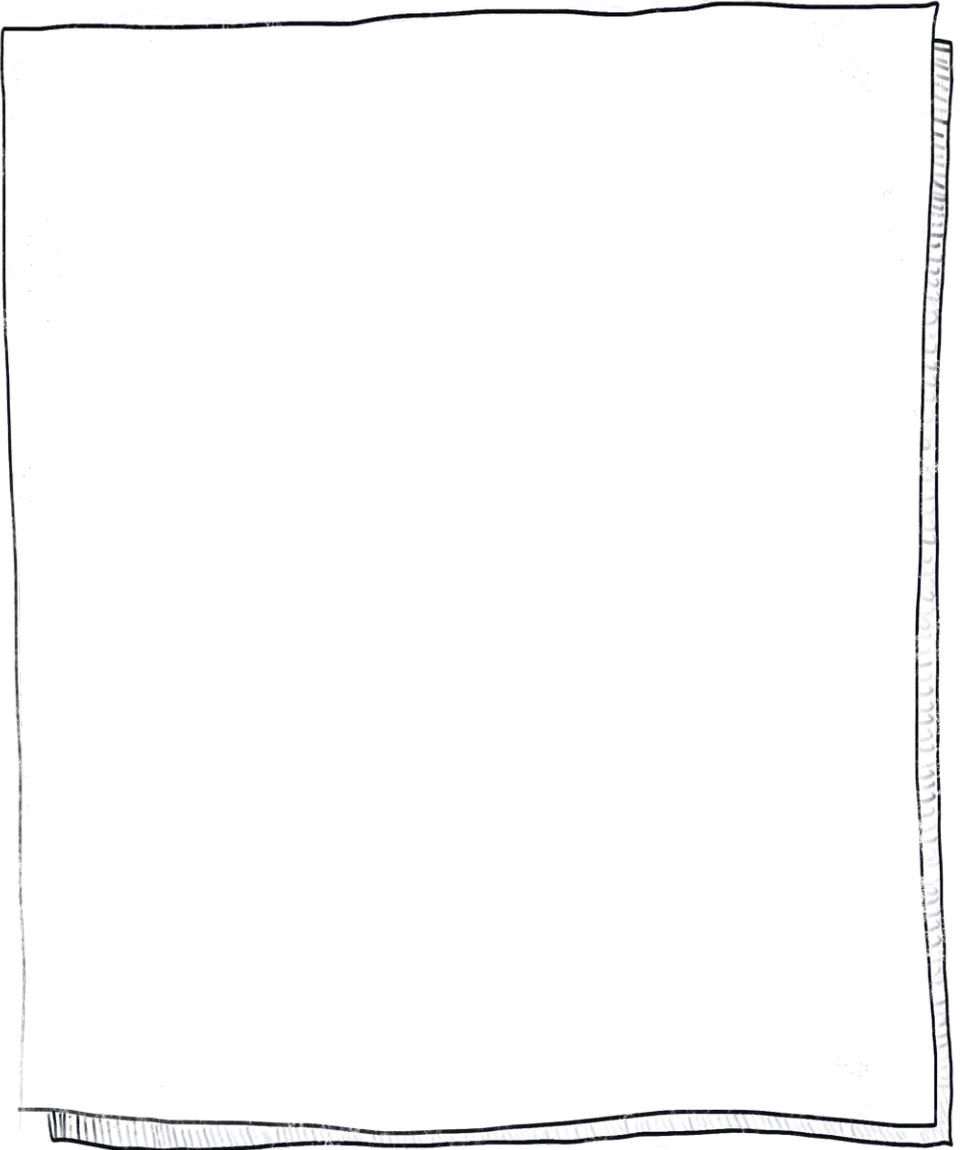
There are other booklets about sleep, getting exercise and solving your problems. These are all ways of helping you to feel better. You can look at the booklets with someone. Or, you can talk to them on the phone about the booklets. Try out the ideas in the booklets and see if they help.



# Notes



# Notes





This resource has been adapted by CAMH to be used in Canada  
with permission from the University of Glasgow



University  
of Glasgow



This booklet was produced by  
University of Glasgow

Illustrations © Heedi Design