



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 is feeling down.

George feels sad. Usually he goes out to clubs, to meet friends and his mum visits him. Now he has to stay in the house, alone. He misses his mum, even though he speaks to her on the phone most days. He still speaks to his worker Mary once a week but speaking on the phone isn't the same. Now he can't even be bothered to do anything in the house. He feels tired and is not sleeping well.

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 changes 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 felt down. She spoke to her sister on the phone.

They talked about changes in the past, about how her mum had died and she had to move house. She had been getting on really well in her new house and had started going to some clubs which she enjoyed. Now she can't get out to clubs to meet her friends or even see her sister for coffee. She's begun to feel worse and worse. And she's worried she might get sick with coronavirus.



What makes you feel down?

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

	Yes 	No 
Being ill		
Other people being ill		
Other people being unkind to you		
Someone close to you dying		
Being bullied		
Not seeing my friends/family		
Feeling lonely		
Not having much money		
Having nothing to do		
Arguing with other people		
Having little or no support any more		

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:

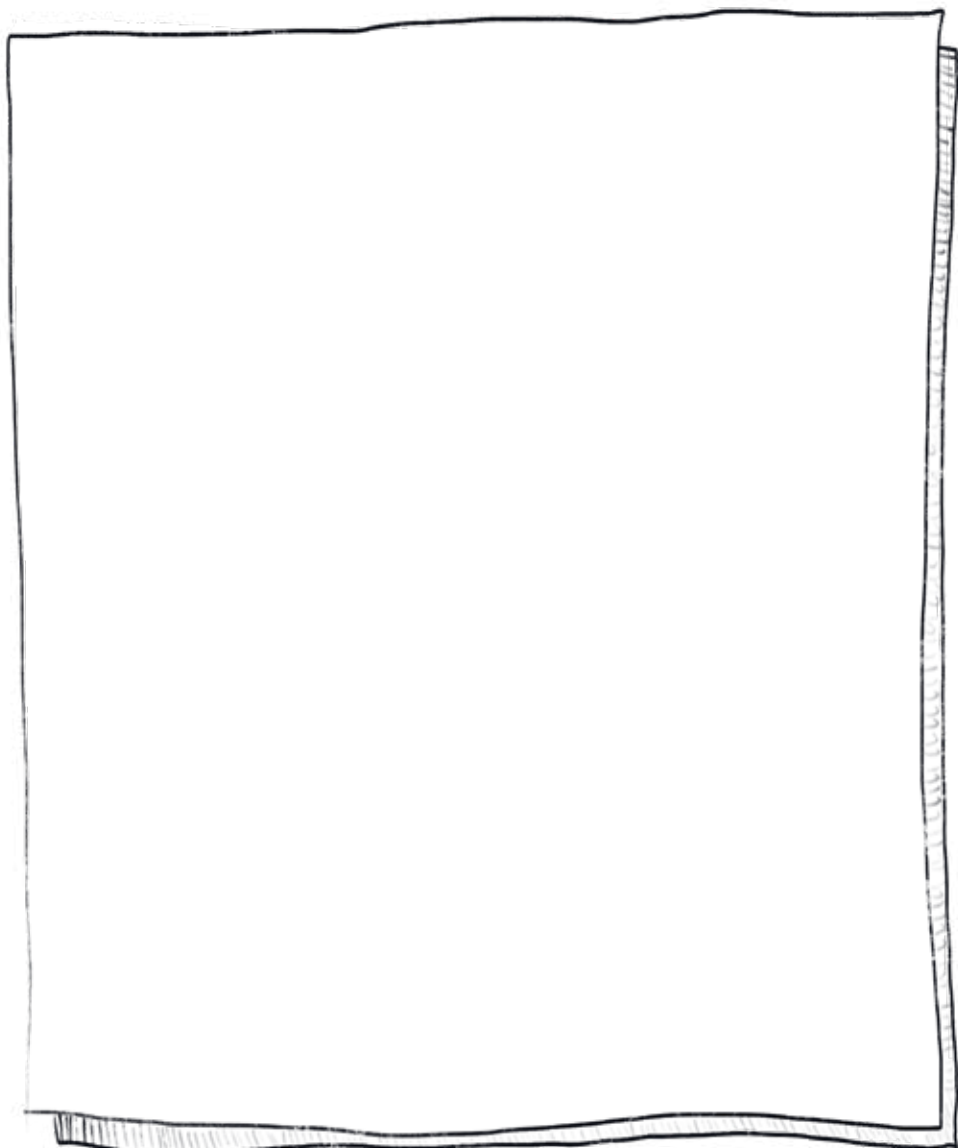


More good ideas

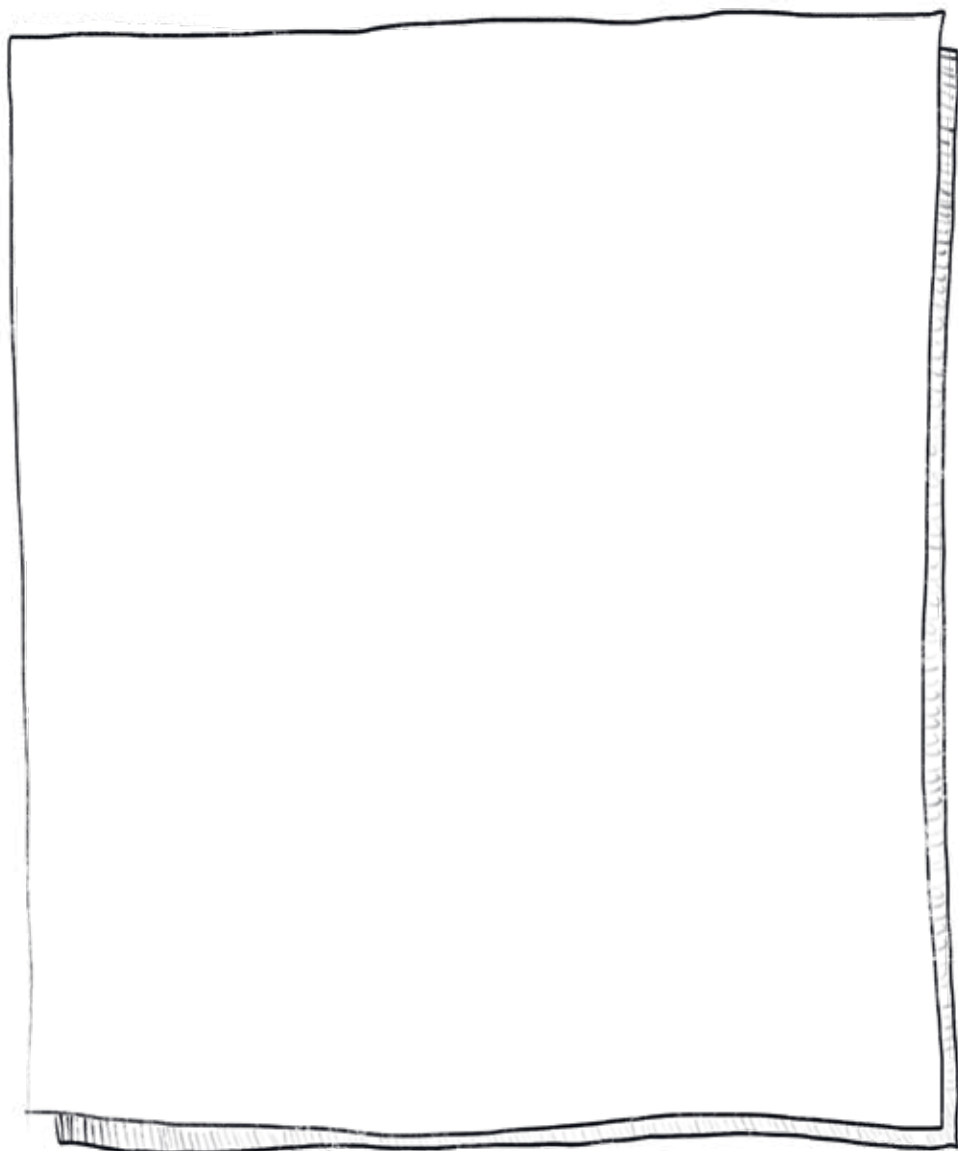
There are other booklets about sleep, getting exercise and solving your problems. These are all ways of helping you to feel better. You can look at the booklets with someone. Or, you can talk to them on the phone about the booklets. Try out the ideas in the booklets and see if they help.



Notes



Notes





University
of Glasgow



This booklet was produced by:

University of Glasgow
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ENABLE Scotland