

Biology		Lesson 1: Cannabis: dangerous or beneficial?		
Curriculum Key:	AQA Core 11.3		OCR B C1	Edexcel Topic 4
<b>Objective(s)</b> 1. analyse various resources and understand that scientific articles are based on research. 2. analyse the possible beneficial and dangerous effects of cannabis.			<b>Resources needed:</b> DVD player and screen/projector. Card sort. Dictionary.	
<b>Starter:</b> 10 minutes Video clips of three people with an interest in cannabis use – a doctor, a politician and a person suffering multiple sclerosis.			<b>Teacher input/assessment</b> Ask students to show by raising hands which point of view they agree with at that time.	
<b>Main Activity:</b> 25 minutes <b>Card sort.</b> Cards have quotes from various resources including scientific and medical journals and the popular press.  Students work in groups of up to four, reading and sorting into Scientific evidence for, Scientific evidence against and Non-scientific evidence.  Groups give three minute feedback on their findings to class			<b>Teacher input / assessment</b> Circulate in class, questioning students about their choices.	
<b>Plenary:</b> 10 minutes Teacher led discussion on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Is there a link between smoking cannabis and memory loss?</li><li>Has cannabis been proved useful for relief of multiple sclerosis symptoms?</li><li>Should cannabis be more readily available?</li><li>Do students still agree with video clip they chose before?</li></ul>			<b>Teacher input / assessment</b> Students vote again on video clips and see if view has changed, using only evidence given in the lesson	
<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> <b>All students must:</b> Understand there are different views about the safety and benefits of cannabis. <b>Most students should:</b> Understand the importance of information based on research and evidence, not opinion. <b>Some students could:</b> Understand that scientists may disagree with each other.				
<b>Key Skills:</b> Literacy, analysis of text, teamwork, communication. <b>Key words:</b> Cannabis, legislation, schizophrenia. <b>Homework:</b> Design a leaflet with balanced information about cannabis for the school nurse to distribute.			<b>Differentiation:</b> <b>More able:</b> Understand the importance of open discussion and scientific research. <b>Less able:</b> Understand that cannabis is not legal and can have some dangerous effects.	