

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## The Sneaky Threat: Dangers of Secondhand Smoke

### Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Secondhand smoke is a significant health concern for children because their developing bodies are more vulnerable to its harmful effects. Exposure to secondhand smoke can lead to respiratory infections such as bronchitis and pneumonia. It can also trigger asthma attacks in children who already have asthma, making it harder for them to breathe and stay healthy.
2. Secondhand smoke exposure can have both immediate and long-term effects on the overall health of nonsmokers. Immediately, it can cause irritation of the eyes, nose, and throat, as well as headaches and coughing. In the long term, it can increase the risk of heart disease, lung cancer, and respiratory problems. Nonsmokers who are regularly exposed to secondhand smoke face similar health risks to smokers, although to a lesser extent.
3. To encourage a friend to quit smoking and explain the dangers of secondhand smoke, you could mention the harmful chemicals in secondhand smoke and their impact on your health. You could also highlight the risks to children and pregnant women when exposed to secondhand smoke. Additionally, you could emphasize the benefits of quitting, such as improved health, better smelling clothes and breath, and saving money.
4. It is crucial for public places to implement smoke-free policies to protect the health of the community. Smoke-free policies create environments where everyone can breathe clean air and reduce the risk of exposure to harmful chemicals in secondhand smoke. This helps lower the rates of smoking-related diseases and encourages people to lead healthier lives. It also sets a positive example for young people and promotes a culture of wellness and well-being.

