

# No Pain, No Gain

## Fast Facts about Leprosy

How much do your friends or family know about leprosy? Ask them if they think these following statements are true or false!

1. People can get leprosy from drinking dirty water?\_

False. It's not known exactly how the disease is passed on, but most likely from close contact with someone who has it over a long period of time.

2. Only adults can get leprosy?

False. Many children contract the disease each year.

3. Leprosy can cause blindness?

True. If someone who has leprosy is not treated quickly enough, the disease can damage nerves in the face causing eyelid muscles to stop working. The eyes are no longer protected by blinking and this can lead to blindness.

4. Animals can get leprosy?

True. Well, one animal, Armadillos!

5. If a child has leprosy they may not be allowed to go to school?

True. In some countries, children may be forced to leave school due to stigma and the myth that leprosy is highly contagious.