

MY MOUTH

IS A

VOLCANO!



Activity  
and idea  
Book

*published by*



**National  
Center for  
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Practical Guidance Resources  
Educators Can Trust

## A Note To Parents and Educators

Unnecessary interrupting is an annoying behavior that is quite common in the classroom. Most students don't intend to be rude when they interrupt. They just believe they have something to say, and their need to get their immediate point across outweighs their will to control their response.

Interrupting is a behavior that children learn at a young age. Early in life, all children believe the entire world revolves around them. This egocentric mindset encourages impulsive thinking and consequently leads to interrupting as a way of meeting the child's immediate needs or wants.

Older children and adults interrupt for various reasons. They may like being the center of attention, they may not have the ability or desire to curb their impulsiveness, they may be convinced that they need to "blurt out" an immediate solution to a problem, or they may have just plain old "bad manners." Whatever the reason, interrupting is detrimental to the development of good interpersonal relationships. When people interrupt, they send the message that the ideas and thoughts of others are less important than theirs.

Parents and teachers attempt to discourage interrupting but often find themselves responding to the interrupting child, which in turn may perpetuate the problem.

This workbook is designed to offer students "hands on" activities that explore interrupting. The activities address the reasons people interrupt, when interrupting is necessary, how unnecessary interrupting makes people feel, how to interrupt politely and how and when to stop yourself from interrupting.

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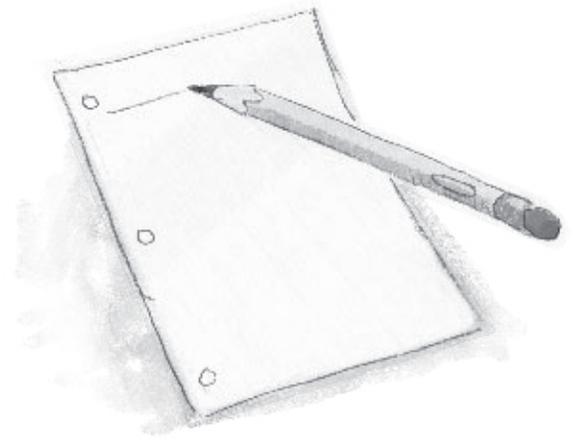
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Summary: A supplementary teacher's guide for *My Mouth Is A Volcano*. Full of discussion questions and exercises to share with students.

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# THINK ABOUT IT...

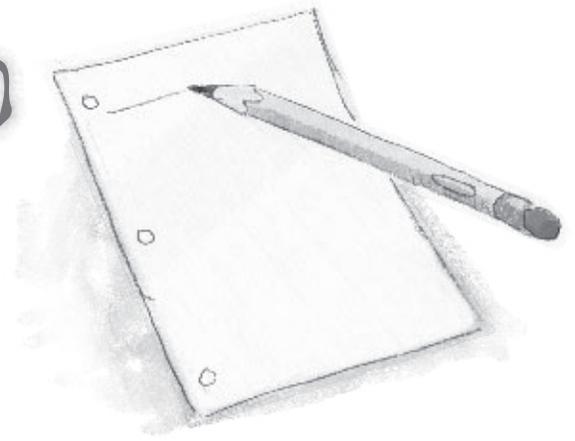


## Someone Interrupted Me!

1. Write about a time when someone interrupted you.
2. How did that make you feel?
3. What did you think of the person who interrupted?
4. Was the interruption necessary? Why or why not?
5. Could the person who interrupted you have handled the situation differently?  
If so, what could he or she have done?

sample

# THINK ABOUT IT... TOO



## I Interrupted Someone Else!

1. Write about a time when you interrupted someone.

2. Why did you do it?

3. How did you feel right after you did it?

4. Was the interruption necessary?

5. What could you have done instead of interrupting?

6. If you could do it all over again, would you still have interrupted? Why or why not?

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