

Assessing the risk

Suggested level

Suitable for any year level

Prepare yourself (teacher)

Have some background knowledge of skin cancer risk factors using information from sunsmart.com.au/skin_cancer/risk_factors

Class resources

- whiteboard
- markers
- copy of the case study analysis for each student.



Think about it!

Student to Think-Pair-Share a list of risk factors which increase a person's chance of skin damage and skin cancer.

Think as individuals taking notes or jotting down ideas.

Form pairs to discuss thoughts and ideas about the task.

Share in small groups by joining with another pair to discuss the issue.



The activity

Scott

Scott has always had very olive skin; he tans easily and spends lots of time out in the sun. During summer Scott showers, brushes his teeth, goes to school and then to the beach to surf. When not in his wetsuit Scott sits on the beach and talks to his friends.

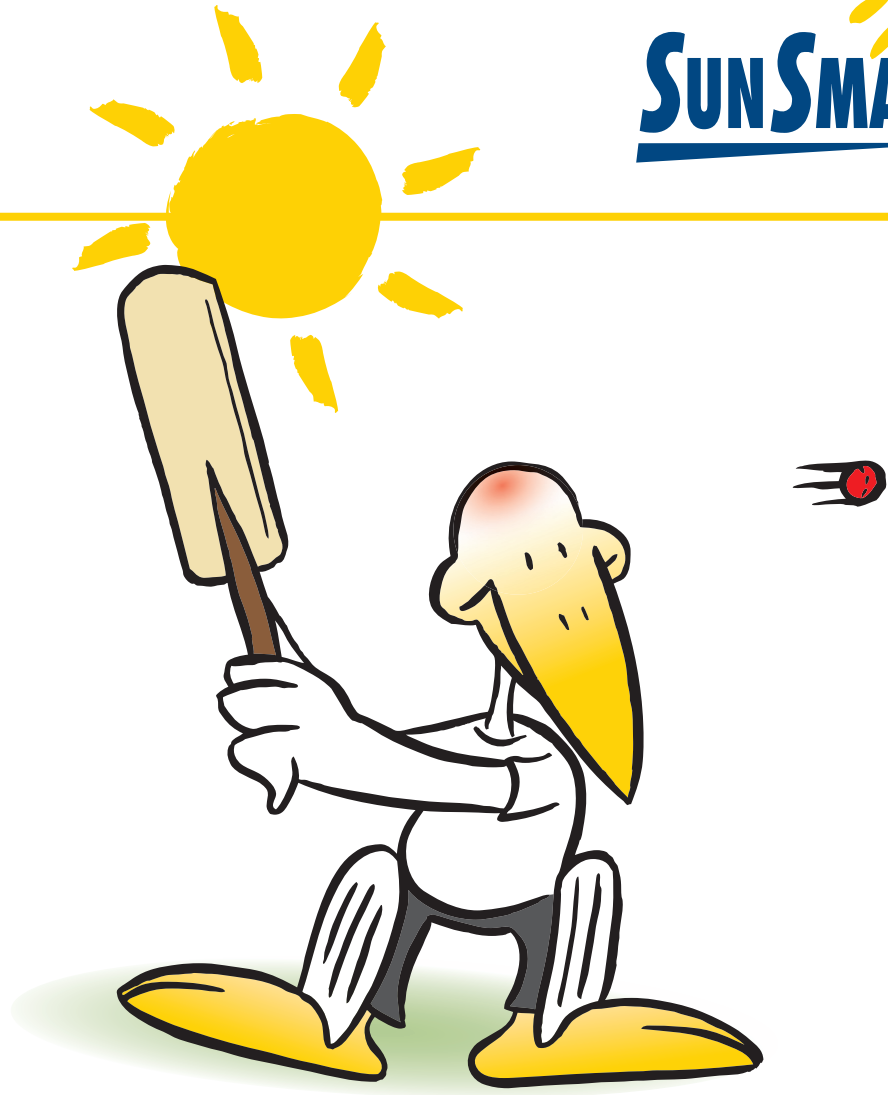
1. Is Scott at risk of skin cancer? Explain why you believe this is the case.
2. Outline the activities that put Scott at increased risk of skin cancer.
3. Reorganise and/or add to Scott's daily routine so that he can protect himself against the sun's UV.
4. Comment on the following statement: Scott must change his lifestyle to prevent skin cancer.
5. Scott surfs all year round. Would he still need to wear sunscreen in winter? Why/why not?



Linh

Linh is a Year 12 student. She is an international student from China. Linh loves her new lifestyle in Australia and enjoys being outside. In her spare time Linh likes to go bushwalking with the school hiking club. As Linh is trying to get a high ATAR score, she only goes outside for leisure activities once on the weekend. It is at this time that she puts on her SPF 15+ sunscreen before she leaves home.

1. Is Linh at risk of skin cancer? Explain why you believe this is the case.
2. Outline the activities that put Linh at increased risk of skin cancer.
3. Reorganise and/or add to Linh's daily routine so that she can protect herself against the sun's UV.
4. Explain why it is important for Linh to wear sunscreen to school. What type of sunscreen do you suggest she wears? Explain why this is the case.
5. When Linh goes bushwalking she wears sunscreen. But she only applies it before leaving home. Why might this result in harm or damage to her skin?
6. Do you think Linh receives adequate sun exposure? Discuss your response.



Aaron

Aaron is a Year 9 student who is very involved in the local cricket club. Aaron plays cricket for the school team at recess and lunchtime with his mates and also for his local club. To play for his local club he must train three nights a week after school. Aaron's mum put a baseball cap into his bag but as yet Aaron has not used it. On cloudy days Aaron gets sunburnt. He thinks it happens at cricket training after school, as he does not believe you can get sunburnt before lunch.

1. Is Aaron at risk of skin cancer? Explain why you believe this is the case.
2. Outline the activities that put Aaron at increased risk of skin cancer.
3. Reorganise and/or add to Aaron's daily routine so that he can protect himself against the sun's UV.
4. Why is Aaron misinformed about when you can get sunburnt? Provide Aaron with the correct information about when, where and how sunburn occurs.
5. Provide five suggestions that could reduce Aaron's risk of skin cancer.