



STORIES

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FROM COOTIES TO COOL *By La'cee, 13*

When you enter middle school things begin to change:

From “boys have cooties” or “girls are no fun” to “does he like me or not?” and “am I cool enough for her?”

Things will go much better in middle school—and you’ll feel a lot better about yourself—if you be the kind of person you wish others would be: friendly, helpful, polite and honest.

Don’t worry about all the petty things. School comes first. Dating and everything else comes later.

When you’re in a situation and you don’t know what to do, talk to your parents about what’s bothering you.

If you find yourself in a bad situation,



La'cee (right) and Laurie don't worry about petty things.

get out. If you can't, stay neutral. Go with your gut feeling because 99.9% of the time you're making the right decision.

PLASTIC DISCS

Want some ideas for things to do with all those Frisbees hanging out in your garage or basement?

Flying plastic discs come in all shapes and sizes. You can use small discs as rug gliders for heavy furniture. Simply slide a disc, convex side down, under each of the legs. Or put a few on top of the table—they make excellent drink coasters. And you always can use a small disc as a kickstand base if you park your bike on squishy ground.

If you travel with a pet, medium-size discs make excellent water bowls. They make good pet dishes too, and only cost about a buck apiece.

Your folks might appreciate your offer of your old discs to use as houseplant bases, protecting furniture from water overflow. The really big discs will hold a small-size potted tree!



HEALTHY LIVING DOESN'T HAVE TO BE HARD

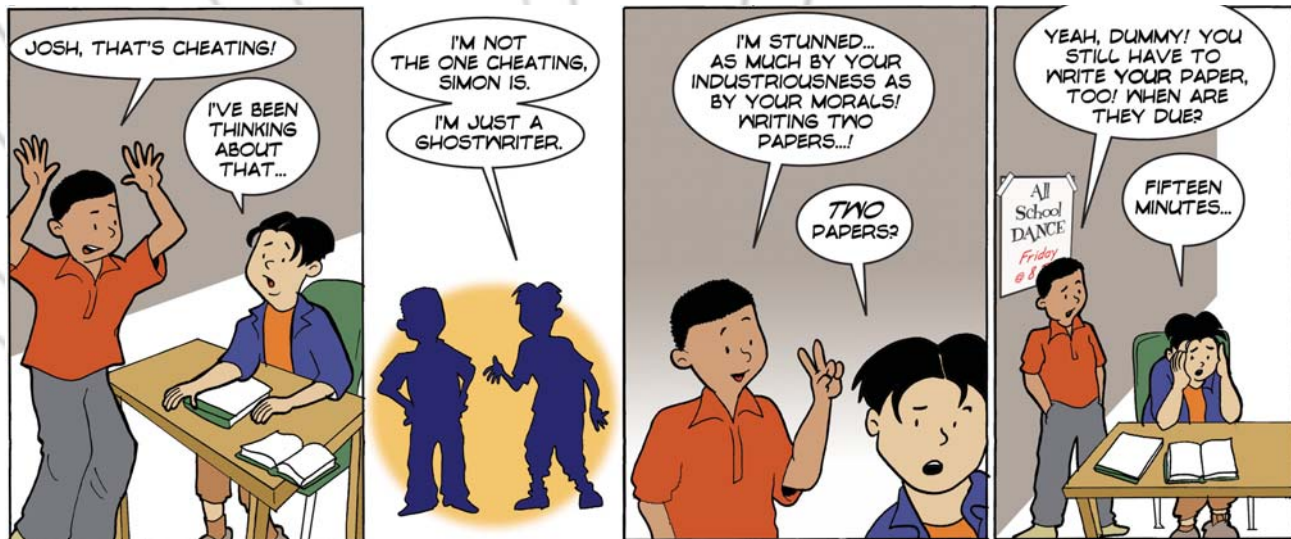
What does it mean to live healthy? Meet Coletrane, age 12. He found out that it's a lot easier than he thought.

Coletrane recommends eating three moderate meals and three small snacks every day, instead of “a couple of big meals.” He says it “energizes you and keeps you from eating too much.”

Discover more easy healthy living tips by watching Coletrane's video, in *AJ's*. Type “healthy living” in the search engine, sit back with your small snack, and enjoy!



KID KRED



THE BRAINS BEHIND THIS STORY ILLUSTRATED THE DIRECTION OF THIS SERIAL COMIC BASED ON YOUR VOTE. VISIT [AJ'S](#) ON YOUR CREDIT UNION'S WEBSITE AND CLICK ON **KID KRED** TO GET IN ON THE ACTION!

GAMES



TRUE OR FALSE?

A recent experiment proves that you can cook an egg by placing it between two activated cell phones.

Of course that's false. The only thing being cooked up here is an urban legend—a phony yet somewhat believable story. Here are a few more urban legends. Can you identify which are true and which are false?

1. On Halloween, a haunted house in Michigan is considered the scariest in the country. Admission is \$100 and entrants must sign a contract agreeing to never publish a word about what they see. The contract promises a full refund to anyone who makes it all of the way through the house. No one has ever received the refund.



The house consists of five progressively scarier floors. The first floor is about the same as a normal haunted house. The second contains live snakes and spiders, as well as secret doors and drop-away floor slides. There are no accounts of anything higher than the third floor of the house.

Even finding the house can be a challenge. It is never advertised and the exact location is a mystery. People get the address by word-of-mouth or eyewitness accounts.

2. While browsing in a sporting goods store, a woman was detained by security guards who claimed she was shoplifting a basketball. The woman claimed she was in her eighth month of pregnancy.

The security guards didn't believe her tale, so the woman flashed her stomach for all to see, then left the store in tears. She was so upset that she went into labor and the baby was born the next day.

The mom sued the store for hundreds of thousands of dollars. To avoid further embarrassment, the store's owners settled out of court for an undisclosed amount of money.



1. False—Boo! This is a popular urban legend. No such house has been proven to exist.
2. True—This strange tale occurred nearly 20 years ago in Virginia.