



Better Breathing for Ben

Ben loves to play soccer, but lately he has been coughing a lot when he tries to run up and down the field. He has to stop and catch his breath. Sometimes, the coach takes him out of the game to sit and rest and get a drink of water.

Ben's parents are very concerned about the cough and have decided to take him to the doctor. Ben is nervous about the doctor visit and gets restless while waiting for his appointment. Finally, it is Ben's turn. The doctor asks him and his parents a lot of questions. Then he listens to Ben's breathing with a stethoscope. He lets Ben put it in his ears too, so he can hear his own breathing.

"I think I know the problem," the doctor says. "Ben has asthma, and that makes him cough when he runs." The doctor sees the troubled looks on the faces of Ben and his parents. "Not to worry," he continues. "There is very good medicine for asthma. We'll give Ben an inhaler and show him how to use it. Then he should be able to play soccer just fine."

Relieved, Ben hops down from the exam table, hugs his mom, high fives his dad, and says with a big smile, "Well, let's get going. I have soccer practice today."

1. What sport does Ben love to play?

- baseball basketball
 soccer tennis

2. Lately, Ben has been _____ when he runs up and down the field.

- crying coughing
 falling yelling

3. Ben's parents take him to the doctor because they are _____.

- happy annoyed
 sad concerned

4. How does Ben feel about going to the doctor?

- angry sleepy
 nervous glad

5. The doctor says Ben coughs when he runs because he has _____.

- arthritis the flu
 a cold asthma