# Don't Stress

How to Handle Life's Little Problems

#### **Helaine Becker**

Scholastic Canada Ltd. Toronto New York London Auckland Sydney Mexico City New Delhi Hong Kong Buenos Aires Scholastic Canada Ltd. 604 King Street West, Toronto, Ontario M5V IEI, Canada

Scholastic Inc. 557 Broadway, New York, NY 10012, USA

Scholastic Australia Pty Limited PO Box 579, Gosford, NSW 2250, Australia

Scholastic New Zealand Limited Private Bag 94407, Botany, Manukau 2163, New Zealand

Scholastic Children's Books Euston House, 24 Eversholt Street, London NWI IDB, UK

www.scholastic.ca

Library and Archives Canada Cataloguing in Publication Becker, Helaine, 1961-, author

Don't stress : how to handle life's little problems / Helaine Becker. ISBN 978-1-4431-4842-9 (paperback)

I. Stress in children–Juvenile literature. 2. Stress (Psychology)–-Juvenile literature. I. Title. BF723.S75B43 2016 j155.4'189042 C2015–908021-5

Photo credits:

Cover: Rainbow and clouds Shutterstock © Hluboki Dzianis Hot air balloons in sky Shutterstock © Keng Merry Mikey Melody Interiors: Page 31 by Simon Kwan © Scholastic Canada Ltd.; all others Shutterstock.com.

Text copyright © 2016 by Helaine Becker.

All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced or stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, recording, or otherwise, without written permission of the publisher, Scholastic Canada Ltd., 604 King Street West, Toronto, Ontario M5V IEI, Canada. In the case of photocopying or other reprographic copying, a licence must be obtained from Access Copyright (Canadian Copyright Licensing Agency), 56 Wellesley Street West, Suite 320, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2S3 (I-800-893-5777).

654321

Printed in Canada 121

16 17 18 19 20



### Spin Like a Helicopter

Remember when you were a little kid and you used to throw your arms out wide, then spin, spin, spin like a helicopter? It felt *soooo* good! You would spin until you couldn't spin any longer, then fall to the ground and feel the world seem to spin around *you*.

You don't need to be a little kid to "helicopter." Recapture that fab feeling of abandon by going for a spin right now.



Does the word STRESSED give you stress? Just read the word backwards. Now it says DESSERTS!

#### Change Your Perspective

What do you see in this picture?



Some people see a vase. Some see two faces. Both are right. It just depends on how you look at it!

It's the same thing with problems: you can get stuck seeing them in one way. But change up your point of view and the same situation can suddenly look completely different.



#### Take a Walk

When you take a walk, you don't need to have a destination. Just getting outside and stretching your legs feels good.

Start out fast. Take long, quick strides. Let your arms swing freely. Get that blood pumping.

After a few minutes, slow your pace. Look up at the sky. Pay attention to what's happening around you. What do you hear? What do you smell? What's *different* from the last time you walked along this route?



#### You can turn almost any activity into a game. Need to tidy your room? Assign points for every item you put away. When you reach a predetermined goal, you win! (Don't forget to give yourself style points for folding with flair.)

## Play a Game

It can take two minutes (Tic-Tac-Toe) or all day (Monopoly).

It can be something you play on your own (Solitaire) or something you play with someone else (Tag).

You can play a game with pencil and paper (Hangman), a ball (HORSE) or a console (Minecraft).

You can play with a baby (Peekaboo!) or even a pet (Fetch!).

Whatever game you play, you'll win big at reducing stress.

