Everyone has problems, both big and small. To better solve your big problems, it helps to learn how your **thoughts**, **feelings**, and **actions** are connected.

Imagine you have an upcoming test, and you think "I'm going to fail". Because of this thought, you start to worry. You are so worried that you feel sick just thinking about the test. Because it's so uncomfortable, you decide not to study.

The thought ("I'm going to fail") led to a feeling (worry), which led to an action (not studying). What might have changed if you had a different thought?





Thoughts are the words that run through your mind. They're the things you tell yourself about what's going on around you. There are many different thoughts you could have about a single situation.



Feelings come and go as different things happen to you. You might feel happy, angry, and sad, all in one day. Some feelings are uncomfortable, but they are not bad. Everyone has these feelings from time-to-time.



Actions are the things you do, or the way you behave. Your thoughts and feelings have a big impact on how you act. If you feel happy, you are likely to do nice things. But if you feel angry, you might want to act mean.



Just because you have a thought doesn't mean it's true. Your thoughts are *guesses* about why something happened, or about something that might happen. Coming up with new thoughts will help you see a situation differently.

	ی New Thoughts	New Feelings	New Actions
1	"Emma might be upset	Concerned that Emma	Ask Emma if she is
	with me, but maybe	<i>might</i> be upset, but I'm	mad at me, or if she
	not. I don't know."	not as sad as I was.	has another problem.
2	"Emma has probably	Disappointed I haven't	I'll stay friendly with
	been busy with school	talked to Emma, but	Emma, as usual. I'll be
	or something else."	understanding.	sure to say "hi" anyway.
3	"Maybe Emma is upset about something unrelated to me."	Worried about how Emma is feeling.	Ask Emma what's going on, and if she needs help.



