

## Leucan Project

Leucan warmly thanks Mrs. Véronique Graton for preparing this work tool.  
We are very happy to share it with you.

## DOCUMENTS

**Information Document:** Content taken from Leucan's website but slightly modified to meet students' needs (through the years, we took note of some questions from students which deserved more attention, and used them to add some information).

**Questions on the text:** We put together a long list of questions. You can remove or edit questions. The questions are to be used after reading the text.

**Oral presentation:** Sixth grade students must give an oral presentation on their project to all the students at the school, from kindergarten to sixth grade. They have to prepare an oral presentation and make an appointment with the teachers. We developed two documents to be used to plan the oral presentation including one specifically for students in preschool and first cycle.

**Assessment of the oral communication:** Before giving their presentation, the team of sixth grade students will distribute an assessment sheet to the teacher of the class to whom they are giving the presentation. The teacher will then complete the feedback form and return it to the team's teacher. This feedback will be very important for sixth grade students.

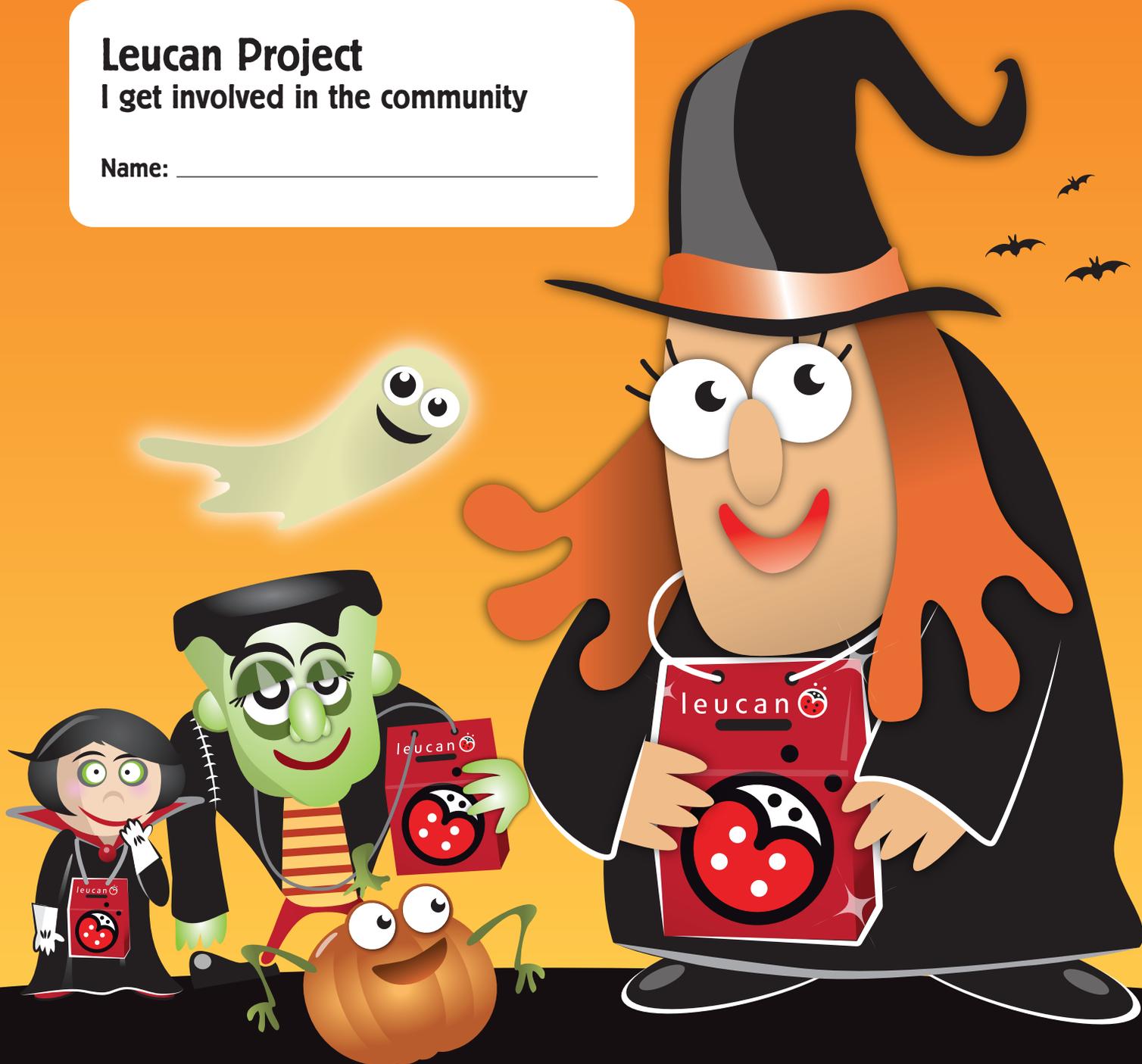
# Halloween

## Money Box Campaign

### STUDENT GUIDE

**Leucan Project**  
I get involved in the community

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



# Leucan, the Association for children with cancer

\_\_\_\_\_ Elementary School chose to get involved with an association named **Leucan** that comes to the help of children affected by a disease called cancer. Why **Leucan**? Well, it is possible that a student from the school suffers from cancer. We hope to see everyone at school get involved to assist **Leucan** in helping children with cancer and their families. Students from the sixth grade will get involved more particularly and in this way, will have a chance to show that as the “grown-ups” in school, they can rally their efforts and make a wonderful gesture.



## ? What is Leucan?

**Leucan** is the Association for children with cancer. **Leucan** provides support to children and families and attempts to show them that they are not alone in their battle against cancer.

For parents, learning that their child has cancer is a great shock: they are of course very worried and do not know what will happen next. So **Leucan** comes to the help of children and families from the moment the cancer is diagnosed (when doctors discover the disease) and through every step after that. **Leucan**'s head office (the main offices of the Association) is located in Montreal but there are also nine regional offices across Quebec.

**Leucan**'s mascot is a ladybug named CAMIE. **CA** for CAncer, but the most important part of the name is **AMI**, which means “friend”. Children themselves picked a ladybug as a mascot because although it is bald, it's still very friendly. The ladybug is also a healing symbol because this insect is part of the beetle family: a band of very tenacious survivors!

## ? What does Leucan?

In the first place, when families learn that their child has cancer, what they need most of all is to be reassured. They need someone to welcome and support them and to follow up with them. **Leucan** gives a lot of information to families to help them understand cancer. **Leucan** can also suggest resource persons and specialists from various fields that can help families navigate through all the information.

In many cases, one parent of a cancer-stricken child must take a leave from work to support the child during the months, and sometimes years, of treatments. So in addition to worrying about the disease, parents also worry about money. Therefore, **Leucan** provides financial assistance (\$) to the families of a child undergoing treatment.



Also, while the child is getting treatment, families often have to travel to clinics located far from their local hospitals. Those clinics are called “oncology centres” and are often based in the larger pediatric hospitals (hospitals for children). So, **Leucan** makes sure that sick children and their siblings enjoy hosting services during the treatment. What this means is that at the treatment centre, there is usually an educator available to do crafts with children or suggest electronic games and books; in short, to give children something to do to pass the time. Indeed, hospital appointments often run long, and so it’s nice to take your mind off things!

After they receive their treatment, children with cancer sometimes need to relax and to soothe their aches and pains. To that end, **Leucan** offers specialized massages suitable for sick children.

On another matter, families with a cancer-stricken child can feel lonely. That is why **Leucan** organizes socio-recreational activities, including a summer camp, to help them break out of their isolation and to share with and support one another. Parents are very grateful to be with other moms and dads who are going through the same situation as they are.

Finally, cancer can be a scary thing. Not understanding what is happening can be disturbing. For example, friends and classmates can have strange reactions, which will complicate things for a sick child. That is why **Leucan** created a school awareness program to help students understand what is going on.

## **? How do you catch cancer?**

First and foremost, you cannot catch cancer. So you can play, kiss, hug and lend your toys to your brother or sister or your friend even if they have cancer... It’s not contagious like the flu because it’s not a virus.

Our bodies are made up of billions of small cells that combine together to form organs like the heart, the lungs and even the skin. Cancer occurs when one small cell in an organ rebels and refuses to follow orders. The cell becomes abnormal and multiplies, meaning it gives birth to other rebellious cells. Those cells are in fact sick. They no longer obey the rules of the human body. We call them “cancer cells”.

## **? Does that mean that I could get cancer, too?**

You would have to be very unlucky because we do not really know the causes of childhood cancer. It’s a mystery... There are many factors at play, but one thing is for certain: it is never the fault of the sick child. It’s the body that can no longer defend itself. Many people—researchers, doctors and specialists—are working very hard to find answers to those questions, as well as medications and cures.

## **? How do you know if you have cancer?**

There are different signs: great pains, being very pale for a long period of time or bruises that won’t heal. There are other signs depending on the type of cancer. However, don’t worry over every little bruise or ache. We all get them from time to time without having cancer!

## ? How do you know if you're cured?

Again, it depends on the type of cancer. For leukemia, you can call yourself cured five years after the disease is gone. To help children recover from cancer, doctors use all the tools that they have. One of those tools is called surgery. A surgery is an operation to remove a group of sick cells called "tumour".

Other times, doctors will apply a technique called radiation therapy or radiotherapy, which uses X-rays. X-rays can be compared to an invisible rainfall that destroys weeds. Another therapy used is called chemotherapy. With this technique, drugs are used to destroy the sick cells. They are administered in pill form or through injections. It's also important to know that it's not cancer that causes hair loss, but some of the treatments, including chemotherapy and radiation therapy.

## ? How should I act around a friend who has cancer?

When you have a friend with cancer, the best thing to do is to be honest and sincere. Don't try to pretend that nothing is wrong. It's much better to tell your friend, "I heard that you're sick and I'm here for you. Everything will be OK." Once that's done, just act like you would with any other friend because life goes on and kids want to laugh and have fun without thinking constantly about it! If your friend cannot do some activities, it's a good idea to suggest things that he or she can do to show that you want to spend time together.

Because cancer gives us the impression that we have no control over what happens to the people we love, it's important to feel helpful. We can help families affected by cancer by preparing meals, helping with the grounds maintenance, taking the time to play with kids, etc.

Lastly, a good way to get involved is to take the opportunity of a day like Halloween to collect donations for **Leucan!**

You are in sixth grade and you're taking part in a campaign to help children and families through **Leucan**. **We thank you sincerely because you are already making a difference!**



# LEUCAN PROJECT

## READING COMPREHENSION ACTIVITY

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1 Why did the staff of our school choose to get involved with **Leucan**?

---

---

2 What role does **Leucan** play for children and families? Try to find a sentence that best summarizes this in the second paragraph: What is **Leucan**?

---

---

3 Where is **Leucan**'s head office (its main administrative offices) located?

---

4 What is the first need of families upon learning that their child has cancer? How does **Leucan** meet this need?

---

---

5 Why does **Leucan** provide financial assistance to families with a child in treatment?

---

---

6 Name two other services Leucan provides to families and children and explain those services in your own words:

Service: \_\_\_\_\_

Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Service: \_\_\_\_\_

Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7 What are the definitions of the following words (use a dictionary)?

Oncology: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Pediatrics: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8 Read the "How do you catch cancer?" paragraph (You cannot catch cancer!) carefully and explain in your own words what happens in the body to create cancer cells.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

9 Explain the meaning of CAMIE, the ladybug mascot of **Leucan**.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**10** Name three tools used to fight cancer and explain each of them:

Tool 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Tool 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Tool 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**11** From what you read in the document, how should you act around a friend with cancer? Explain it in your own words, based on the information in the text.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**12** Explain what you will have to do during this project. List every step you will have to follow with your team to get involved in this cause.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**Great job! Ready for the next step?**

# LEUCAN PROJECT ORAL PRESENTATION

## 1 Introduction

Say your name and the name of your classroom. Mention that the school chose to get involved with an organization called **Leucan** that helps children who have a disease called cancer. You are here today to explain quickly what cancer is and also to explain how we will all assist **Leucan** in helping children!

## 2 What is Leucan?

**Leucan** is a non-profit organization: that means a group of people coming to the help of families because they have a child with a disease called cancer. When a child has cancer, the whole family is also affected. **Leucan** helps them in different ways: financial assistance (meaning giving money to families who need it because in many cases, one parent has to stop working to take care of the sick child); hosting services in hospitals, massages for children, services in school, services to families, summer camps, etc. To provide all those services, **Leucan** needs our help. That's why we are here today.

There are several types of cancers. The name **Leucan** comes from LEUkemia (blood cancer) and CANcer. But **Leucan** supports children with all types of cancers and not only those with leukemia.

## 3 What is cancer?

I will try to explain it as simply as I can. First of all, cancer is not contagious. You can't catch it! Our body is made up of tons of little cells which form our organs (like the heart, the kidneys, the lungs or the brain). Cancer occurs when some of those little cells rebel and stop doing their work. They become abnormal cells and give birth to more abnormal cells. Those are sick cells. They are harmful and they destroy the healthy cells on their path. They are called cancer cells. So they must be removed from the body or destroyed with very powerful drugs.

## 4 Leucan's mascot

**Leucan's** mascot is a ladybug named CAMIE. CA for CANcer and AMI meaning friend. Children themselves picked a ladybug as a mascot because although it is bald, it's still very friendly. The ladybug is also a healing symbol because this insect is part of the beetle family: a band of very tenacious survivors!

## 5 Leucan Halloween Money Box Campaign

A very nice way to make a difference is to get involved on the night of October 31 by carrying the **Leucan** money box. If every student carries it, our school will make a huge difference!

# LEUCAN PROJECT ORAL PRESENTATION

ADAPTED FOR KINDERGARTEN AND FIRST GRADE STUDENTS

## 1 Introduction

Say your name and the name of your classroom. Mention that the school chose to get involved with an organization called **Leucan** that helps children who have a disease called cancer. You are here today to explain quickly what cancer is and also to explain how we will all assist **Leucan** in helping children!

## 2 What is Leucan?

**Leucan** is a group of people coming to the help of families that have a child with a disease called cancer. When a child has cancer, the whole family is also affected. **Leucan** helps them in different ways: giving money to parents who need it, entertaining kids while they're at the hospital to get their treatment against cancer or inviting children with cancer to a summer camp. **Leucan** needs our help to be there for sick children. That's why we are here to see you today.

There are several types of cancers. The name **Leucan** comes from LEUKemia (blood cancer) and CANcer. But **Leucan** supports children with all types of cancers and not only those with leukemia.

## 3 What is cancer?

I will try to explain it as simply as I can. First of all, you can't catch cancer! Cancer occurs when some of those little cells in our body stop doing their work. Those are sick cells and they destroy the healthy cells. They are called cancer cells. So they must be removed from the body or destroyed with very powerful drugs.

## 4 Leucan's mascot

**Leucan's** mascot is a ladybug named CAMIE. CA for CANcer and, more importantly, AMI meaning friend. Children themselves picked a ladybug as a mascot because although it is bald, it's still very friendly.

## 5 Leucan Halloween Money Box Campaign

A very nice way to help sick children is to carry your little **Leucan** money box on the night of October 31. If every student carries it, our school will make a huge difference!

# ORAL PRESENTATION ON LEUCAN ASSESSMENT SHEET

Hello!

Students from the sixth grade have to introduce the Leucan project to your class. They had to prepare themselves to give this oral presentation. I thank you for your support. Once this form is completed, please put it in my bin.

Hand over to: \_\_\_\_\_

## Overall assessment of the oral presentation from the sixth grade students

Criteria	Excellent	Good	Could be improved
Introduction and reason for their visit	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Explanation: What is Leucan?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Explanation: What is cancer?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Types of cancers and explanation of the word Leucan	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Explanation: Leucan's mascot	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Explanation: Leucan's money box	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### My assessment:

- Your presentation was well prepared (you learned your information and shared it well)
- Your presentation was not well prepared
- You kept the students interested
- Your presentation could have been more lively
- You seemed happy to make this presentation
- You did not seem all that interested in the project

### Additional comments (if any)

---

---

---

---

---

Teacher's signature: \_\_\_\_\_