**Spike visits Gold Reef City - (Risking on Purpose): By Hayley Walker**

Once upon a time there was a little hedgehog named Spike. Spike lived in a house with his Mom and Dad and they were a happy little family. Spike felt safe with his family.

One morning Spike woke up and stumbled down the stairs to the kitchen. His Mom was waiting for him with a big surprise. Spike began to feel really excited so he gobbled down his breakfast very quickly. Mom told Spike that they were going to go to Gold Reef City for the day. Spike jumped up and down with excitement because he had never been to Gold Reef City before. He ran upstairs, got dressed and was ready within a few minutes.

As the family were driving to Gold Reef City Spike was thinking about all the exciting things he had heard about Gold Reef City - he was getting so excited that he started to feel butterflies in his tummy. His mom said that the early warning signs he was feeling was because it was fun to do something new, even if it was a bit scary and wasn’t sure about what was going to happen.

When they got to Gold Reef City Spike looked at the all the rides and the big area and felt a bit nervous … he was scared that he might get lost.

They went into Gold Reef City and decided to go on the big ferris wheel. There was a long line and when Spike looked up, the wheel was huge. He really wanted to go on the ferris wheel but he felt nervous. His mom explained that he was feeling his ‘fun to feel scared’ early warning signs again. He loved the ride and wanted to go again.

A little while later Spike’s mom suggested that they go to the mine where they could see how Gold is mined. Spike loved to learn new things, so he got really excited. Mom told Spike that there was one small challenge, they would need to go down a lift to go into the mine. Spike was really, really scared of lifts. He told his mom that he was too scared and that he would just walk down the stairs. His mom explained “there are no stairs Spike, if you want to go down into the mine you’d have to ‘risk on purpose’ by going in the lift. ‘Risking on purpose’ is doing something that you are scared of so that you can get what is at the end of it … like the end result”.

Spike eventually agreed to go with his mom and dad in the lift. He still felt his early warning signs and his body shook all the way down to the bottom while holding his mom’s hand. Spike had a wonderful time in the mine shaft but when it was time to leave, he felt scared again and did not want to get back into the lift. Eventually he got into the lift and once they got to the top, Mom and Dad bought Spike an ice cream for being so brave and risking on purpose.

Debrief questions:

How did Spike feel about going to Gold Reef City? (excited)

How did Spike feel when he was going to go on the Ferris Wheel? (Fun to feel scared, had his early warning signs. It was something he wanted to do but his body felt a bit nervous).

How did Spike feel when he had to go down the lift? (Scared. He wanted to go down into the mine but he did not want to go in the lift. Sometimes we have to do something that we don’t really like or want to do so that we can get what is at the end).

Can you think of a time when you did something you didn’t like doing but you really wanted to give it a go? (allow children to exchange ideas to reinforce the point of ‘risking on purpose’).