

THE TROUBLE WITH FLAIR PENS

By Misha Pustovit

Do you have flair pens at school? If so, have you ever been in the situation where you sit down to learn an important lesson and start drawing instead, then don't know what to do? Or draw with flair pens while you're supposed to do work and you don't get anything done? If you have, then LEAVE THEM AT HOME!!! Have you ever lost a flair pen, and tried convincing the kid that found it to give it back? If you have, then once again, LEAVE THEM AT HOME!!! Those are only some of the reasons you should put the flair pens down and learn a lesson.

Flair pens are not only affecting kids, but most teachers are tired of seeing their students waste time drawing. "It's just not fair that I have to spend half the day yelling at the people who are drawing during lessons instead of teaching the kids that are actually paying attention", says Hallie Saltz, a teacher who has banned flair pens in her classroom. The new rule states that if the teacher ever sees a colored pen in the classroom she will take it away and call the owner's parents. But what bugs teachers most of all is that no matter how many times they tell their students to stop drawing, the kids keep on doing it.

But come on, everyone! Face it – we are fourth graders! **FOURTH GRADERS!!!** We can't go on doodling around at school with toys, it's not kindergarten anymore. Besides, we have to set a proper example for the younger kids. If they see our flair pens and other toys, they will want some too. And you know what will happen then. It is not enough for teachers to tell us what to do – we are old enough to make grown-up choices.

There is a time a place for everything, so use your talent and creativity at art class, which is meant for drawing. But in regular classes, such as math and writing, you have to pay attention to your teacher and concentrate on your lesson, and use a pencil.

So make up your mind: do you want to be a kindergartener or a mature fourth grader? **MAKE YOUR CHOICE AND SEE YOU IN CLASS!!!**