

Dealing with Cyberbullying

Time needed: 40 minutes

Recommended Level: Grade 5-8

Categories: Awareness, Cyberbullying, Reporting

Common Core Standard(s): Speaking & Listening, Writing to convey information

Purpose: Students will identify cyberbullying and will create effective strategies to handle it.

DISCUSSION:

Define cyberbullying for the class. Tell the class that you will go over some scenarios that will help them understand what cyberbullying is.

SCENARIO #1

You are furious with a friend after hearing that he started dating your ex-girlfriend. You dig out an old photo of your friend that is very unflattering. You scan the picture and send it through e-mail to your ex-girlfriend with a message saying, "Hope you are enjoying your new boyfriend."

1. How do you think your friend feels about this?
2. In what way may your ex-girlfriend respond?
3. What did you gain by doing this?

SCENARIO #2:

A group of students have created a website about a classmate named Brenda. Brenda dresses differently than most of her classmates and her family seems odd to some of the students. The website includes jokes about Brenda and her lifestyle. Though you don't add anything to the website, you forward the link to a friend.

1. Is there anything different between being the person that created the website or the person that shared the website?
2. How can Brenda handle this situation?
3. What can you do to fix this situation?

ACTIVITY:

Pair students up. Have each pair create at least three internet safety strategies.

Have pairs write down their strategies and share them with the class.

Write the strategies on the board as students share.

FOLLOW-UP:

After all strategies have been presented, have the class decide on their top 5.

Create (or have students create) a poster for the top 5 and display it in the classroom.



Helping Everyone with Anti-Bullying,
Respect & Tolerance