

Let's Chat about Cyberbullying

Time needed: 15-20 minutes

Recommended Level: Grade 5-8

Categories: Cyberbullying, Diversity, Tolerance

Common Core Standard(s): Speaking & Listening, Writing to convey information, Reading informational text, Understanding perspectives & cultures

Purpose: Students will have a virtual discussion about cyberbullying and how it affects them, giving students who are less likely to participate in class an opportunity to share thoughts and opinions.

DISCUSSION:

Explain that this lesson will promote a discussion on cyberbullying. Encourage them to share their knowledge of cyberbullying. Emphasize that respecting one another's experiences and opinions is important during this chat.

ACTIVITY:

First, explain to students that they will:

1. Log onto **Angel**
2. Find your specific class
3. Press the tab **Communication**
4. On the right hand side, hit the **Live Chat** option that you have entitled: **Cyber bullying** or a title of your choice.

(You may also choose to have just an open ended discussion if the technology is not available. You can also use one of the following websites to live chat if your school does not use Angel.)

Google Docs Collaboration: <http://support.google.com/drive/bin/answer.py?hl=en&answer=2494891&rd=1>

Free Chat to use in computer labs:
<http://www.freetech4teachers.com/2010/02/neat-chat-quickly-create-ad-free.html>

Explain this will be a silent chat. If they have something to say, they must type it.

You may wish to require students to respond to at least 5 of your questions, and comment on 3 student comments or a number of your choice. Also, students should use correct grammar and no "text language."

Post the Angel Chat on the smart board for all to see.

Start by typing an open ended question: The following questions are suggestions. Many questions will foster from the discussion students produce. Allow students a chance to respond, and read one another's responses.

1. **Teacher:** What does cyber bullying look like?
Student: Cyber bullying is
2. **Teacher:** Why is cyber bullying so popular? **Student:** Cyber bullying is popular because...
3. **Teacher:** What are key signs of cyber bullying?
Student: Key signs of cyber bullying are...
4. **Teacher:** Name some examples of cyber bullying (personally, or in the news) **Student:** Answers will vary.
5. **Teacher:** What can you do to prevent cyber bullying?
Student: I can prevent cyber bullying by...
6. **Teacher:** What have you learned that surprised you about cyber bullying? **Student:** I was surprised to learn...



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FOLLOW-UP:

After “chatting” about cyberbullying, ask students what they learned today. You may wish to then show them your “log” of all of their responses, reminding them that everything they type, good or bad, is saved somewhere in cyberspace, much like Facebook, Twitter and other live chat groups.



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Duplication and distribution of this lesson plan is permitted and encouraged.

For more information about HEART, please visit www.cypressevansville.org