

BULLY PREVENTION FOR PROS, MAT CHAT DISCUSSION

BULLYING IS USING FORCE TO DOMINATE OTHERS. IT IS COMMONLY HABITUAL AND THERE IS AN IMBALANCE OF POWER. IS THIS BULLYING?

Q There is a kid in your class who is “different”. (Clothes, physical appearance, speech) Since the beginning of school people have been saying mean things about him behind his back.

Yes, it’s bullying No, it’s not

A Absolutely. Gossiping – or talking behind someone’s back is one of the worst forms of bullying. Using the internet or texting is called *cyber bullying*, and it is never okay.

Q You see the boys on the bus pushing and shoving as they get off the bus.

Yes, it’s bullying No, it’s not

A Maybe. Are they children who just can’t control themselves? Or are they pushing and touching someone who doesn’t want to be touched.

Q A child in your class didn’t feel well and threw up during lunch. All of your friends call him a mean name now. You don’t call him names but you laugh at him when your friends say it.

Yes, it’s bullying No, it’s not

A Yes. Joining in on the laughter is bullying. In fact you are encouraging the bully and doing just as much harm by laughing.

Q You said something mean to a classmate about his shoes. You apologized afterwards and tried to be extra nice for the rest of the day because you felt bad.

Yes, it’s bullying No, it’s not

A No. We all say stupid things at times. You said sorry and tried to make it right.

Q A kid comes up to you in the lunchroom and says, “I don’t mean to be rude, but you need to move. Only my friends sit here.”

Yes, it’s bullying No, it’s not

A Yes. Saying “I don’t mean to be rude” or “no offense” doesn’t excuse bossy behavior. This kid may think he’s a leader, but bossing people around only makes you a bully.

Q When you read aloud in your reading block you stumble over your words sometimes because you get nervous. The same kid corrects you every time and says, “You don’t know that?”

Yes, it’s bullying No, it’s not

A It depends. While the kid may be bragging about their own reading ability, they are embarrassing you in the process. Ask them to stop. If they don’t then yes – it’s bullying.

Q A girl asks, “Can I play with you guys?” One of your friends says, “Sorry, it’s not going to work today”.

Yes, it’s bullying No, it’s not

A Maybe. If someone has been treating you and your friends badly, you don’t have to play with them. But if your friend is excluding this girl to make her feel bad, than yes, that’s bullying.