

Homeroom/Core Goal Two Lesson- March 31, 2010
For Grade 6
Topic: Cyber- Bullying

Objectives:

- Students will understand that cyber-bullying is related to bullying and harassment in general.
- Students will understand that cyber-bullying is NOT anonymous.
- Students will recognize that the same rules of respect and civility apply on the Internet and with other technology as elsewhere.
- Students will understand that if they're harassed they should tell their parents or another adult who can help them.
- Students will reflect on their own behavior by taking a self-assessment and sign an Internet safety pledge.

Materials:

- Cyber-bullying DVD ("Bullying, the Internet, and You" by Sunburst)
- "Are you a cyber bully" self-assessment by www.stopcyberbullying.org
- "Internet Safety Pledge" by www.NetSmartzKids.org

Procedures:

- Share objectives above.
- Share that 1 in 4 teens are affected by cyber-bullying. Cyber-bullying involves one or more teens using the Internet, cell phones, or other technology to try to hurt other teens.
- It is also known as internet bullying and is any kind of verbal abuse, harassment, gossip, rumors just like the bullying and harassment we learned about previously.
- Ask students if they own cell phones, are on face book, text friends etc.
- Explain that cyber-bullying can take place through any of these forms of communication, and that technology has made it possible for cyber-bullying to become a significant issue.
- Class will watch the DVD on **Channel 20 at 12:50 p.m.**
- Instruct students to complete the "Are you a cyber bully" self-assessment to reflect on their own behavior. This will not be collected and answers will not be shared.
- Distribute the "Internet Safety Pledge" to each student. Ask students to read, sign, and take home to share with their parents.
- If time, teacher will ask students to share stories of possible cyber-bullying occurrences, emphasizing that names of actual students should NOT be used.
- If time, discuss/review the following questions:
 - Why do teens bully? (i.e. power, attention, loneliness)
 - Why do teens think or feel they can get away with Internet bullying?
 - What can you do if it happens to you or a friend?
 - How can you stay safe from cyber bullying or bullying in general?

Closure:

Cyber-bullying is a serious form of bullying and harassment. It doesn't matter how or where it takes place. Share what you've learned today with your parents. Talk to a parent, a teacher, your counselor, or another trusted adult if you are being bullied or harassed in any way.