

'Safe at School!'

A Game for Stopping Bullies



Purpose. 'Safe at School' is a game designed for 2 or more players. Players compete against a make-believe character, the Bully. The purpose of the game is for all players to use teamwork and their knowledge of effective bully-prevention strategies to get *at least one* of their game pieces into the 'Finish' box—before the Bully does! This game provides students with a fun opportunity to review essential concepts in bully prevention and also requires teamwork to win.

Materials. You will need the following materials to play 'Safe at School':

- 'Safe At School' game-board
- A game piece for each player & one for the (make-believe) Bully. (You can use poker chips, coins, or other tokens as game-pieces. Just be sure that you can tell each player's game-piece apart from the others.)
- A pair of dice.
- Two or more players and one Game Leader
- A copy of 'Bullying Challenge Questions' for the Game Leader
- One or more rewards for which players must compete against the Bully

Preparation. The 'Safe at School' game requires that students grasp basic bully-prevention skills. (The information that students should learn is contained in previous sections of this manual.) Prior to playing this game, students should know how to:

- Define *bullying*
- Recite the classroom or school-wide rules of conduct that address appropriate interpersonal behaviors (e.g., "Treat each other with respect.")
- Seek out trusted adults in the school to report incidents of bullying
- Respond *assertively* rather than *aggressively* when picked on by a bully
- Take responsibility to stop (or at least to avoid encouraging) bullies when they find themselves bystanders to bullying situations
- Intervene in bullying situations in ways that will keep them safe.
- Distinguish between 'tattling' and 'telling'
- Take appropriate action when faced with a variety of possible bullying situations

Rules of the Game.

1. Each player places his or her game-piece in the 'Start' box.
2. During the game, players take turns throwing the dice. Each time that the dice is thrown, the Game Leader reads off a question from the 'Bullying Scenarios' sheet.
 - If the player answers the question correctly, that player moves his or her game piece across the same number of spaces on the game-board as appear on the dice.

- If the player does not answer the question correctly (despite encouragement and support from the Game Leader), that player does not move the game piece. The Game Leader (e.g., classroom teacher) has the final say about whether a student's response is acceptable. If an answer is partially correct or shows promise, the Game Leader can encourage the student to elaborate his or her response or provide helpful 'hints' that lead the student to the correct answer. The ultimate point in the game, after all, is to motivate students to review and fully understand bully-prevention concepts.
3. Whenever each of the players has taken a turn, the Game Leader then rolls the dice. This is called the "Bully's Throw". The Game Leader moves the Bully's game-piece the same number of spaces as appear on the dice.
 4. Whenever a player (including the Bully!) is lucky enough to finish his or her move on a circle with a blue star ("Bonus Star"), the player doubles his or her dice score and moves that additional number of spaces on the board. For example, if a player rolls a 5 on the dice and ends up on a Bonus Star, that player doubles the dice amount and moves *another* 5 spaces. NOTE: A player can use only one Bonus Star per turn.
 5. The object of the game is for *at least one of the players* to get to the 'Finish' box *before* the Bully does. To accomplish this goal, any player who rolls the dice and correctly answers a bully question may choose to forgo his or her move and instead donate his or her points to another player to help that player to catch up with or pass the Bully. Players may need to work cooperatively to 'beat the Bully'!
 6. If at least one player beats the Bully to the 'Finish' box, all players earn the reward selected for them.

#	'Safe at School' Bullying Challenge Questions	Acceptable response(s)
1	You walk up to two friends as they are talking and laughing in the hallway. You realize as you approach that they are saying very mean things about another student in your classroom. What should you do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tell your friends to stop saying unkind things about a classmate. • Refuse to participate in the conversation.
2	A new kid in your class walks into the crowded cafeteria and looks around. He seems unsure about where to sit. You don't know him very well...but there is a seat open at the table where you and your friends sit. What should you do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite the new student to join you
3	You are on the playground and see an older student push a smaller kid around. There are no teachers around. The older student is a lot bigger than you. What should you do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get help; tell an adult • Band together with friends and confront the bully (assertively, not aggressively!)
4	Name two trusted adults that you could go to if you need to talk with someone about bullying.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [The student names any two adults in school that are logical persons to discuss bullying issue]
5	When a student leaves the classroom to get a drink, another student puts a tack on her seat. Several kids see this happen, including you. Some of the kids are laughing. The student will walk back into the classroom at any moment and might sit on the tack. What should you do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tell the student who put the tack on the seat to remove it. • Remove the tack yourself. • Warn the student returning to her seat about the tack. • Tell an adult.
6	You are walking into school one morning and notice that some unidentified person spray-painted graffiti on the wall near the entrance to the building. The graffiti insults a student that you don't know very well. A small group of kids are already gathering around the graffiti and commenting on it. What should you do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Join the group and tell students that whoever wrote the graffiti isn't playing fair, because they won't take responsibility for what they wrote. • Help to clean the wall. • Tell an adult.
7	If you know a student who is being picked on a lot by bullies, what would you suggest the student should do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Accept any response that includes positive steps that the victim can take: e.g., talk to a trusted adult, use assertiveness skills, etc.]
8	On the playground, you see a group of boys that you are friends with pushing around a student from another classroom. At first, it looks like everybody is having fun, but then you notice that the student being pushed looks a little scared. What should you do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Join the group and suggest another game. • Tell the group to stop picking on the student. • Tell an adult.
9	What are our rules for how people in this class should treat each other?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Accept any response that includes relevant classroom rules for appropriate interpersonal conduct: e.g., "Treat others with respect", etc.]
10	During math class, you notice that students are passing a note down the classroom row that you're sitting in. Each	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throw away the note without comment.

	student that looks at it laughs, and then passes it on. When the note gets to you, you see that it is a cartoon drawing of a girl in the class that most kids don't like; she is drawn to look like a witch and her name is on the drawing. What should you do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>If you know who wrote the note, approach them when you can and tell them not to send hurtful notes.</i> • <i>Turn the note over to the teacher.</i> • <i>Make an effort to be friends with the student being picked on. She can use your support!</i>
11	You sit next to a boy in your class named Jerry who almost everybody in the room finds annoying. Jerry bothers people by humming to himself a lot, tapping on the desk with his pencil, and squirming in his seat. Today, the teacher gives the class a bunch of directions and Jerry is not paying attention—as usual! Now, as the rest of the class gets to work, Jerry looks lost and confused: He is starting to get upset, and other kids are beginning to tease him. What should you do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Quietly approach Jerry and repeat the directions to help him get started.</i> • <i>Approach an adult and let him/her know that Jerry needs help.</i> • <i>Tell kids to stop picking on Jerry.</i>
12	You learn that some friends of yours plan to trick another student into inviting them all to a party at her house—and then not show up. They think that this will be a really funny idea. They expect you to play along with this trick. What should you do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Confront your friends and tell them not to play this trick. Ask them how they would feel if someone played a trick like this on them.</i> • <i>Refuse to play along.</i> • <i>Let the victim know that she is being duped.</i>
13	You are standing on the sidewalk in front of the school when you see a student walk by who is from the classroom next to yours. You yell out a joke about the student's clothes. Even though you were just kidding, you can see that you <i>really</i> hurt that student's feelings a lot. Now you feel pretty bad. What should you do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Approach the student and offer an apology. And be sincere.</i> • <i>In future, don't make joking comments that could hurt others' feelings.</i>
14	You know that some kids in your school hang out in the hallway next to the gym during lunch and sometimes hassle students that walk by. These kids don't mess with you but they <i>do</i> like to pick on another student in your class who is shy and keeps to herself. Both you and the shy student need to walk past the gym to get to the cafeteria. How can you help this shy student?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Walk with the student to the cafeteria; confront the bullies if they pick on her.</i> • <i>Tell an adult that bullies are hassling students down by the gym.</i>
15	How would you define <i>bullying</i> ?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>[Accept any response that includes one or more of the following: (1) power difference between bully and victim; (2) chronic nature of bullying; (3) inflicting of physical harm, verbal harassment, emotional abuse, or social embarrassment or humiliation]</i>
16	When you walk to school, older students who walk the same route to a nearby high school will sometimes tease you and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Tell an adult at school (e.g., School Resource Officer)</i>

	even slap you around. You are sick of it. What should you do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Tell your parent(s)</i>• <i>Take a different route to school until the problem is taken care of.</i>
17	A tough kid from another classroom walks up to you on the playground and says that, if you don't give him your lunch money, he will "flatten you." (He has never hassled you before.) If you give up that money, though, you won't be able to eat lunch! What should you do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Use assertiveness skills (e.g., tell the bully "No" firmly)</i>• <i>Tell an adult</i>• <i>See if your teacher will let you leave your lunch money in a safe place in the classroom every day until you need it.</i>
18	One day, you walk into the classroom late because you had a doctor's appointment. Students are grouped at tables doing a worksheet activity. You see an open chair next to a friend, so you begin to walk toward it. When your 'friend' sees you coming, though, she puts her books on the chair to block you from sitting there. The other kids at the table giggle. What should you do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Approach the table. Politely ask your friend to move the books so that you can sit at the table. If your friend refuses, calmly sit at another table.</i>
19	You have a few close friends in your classroom that you spend a lot of time with. There is another group of students in the room, though, that are always saying negative things about you and your friends behind your back. You are starting to get really annoyed at them. What should you do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Keep calm and don't try to retaliate by saying unkind things about other group in retaliation.</i>• <i>If the comments really bother you, tell an adult.</i>
20	What is the difference between 'tattling' and 'telling'?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Tattling is when a student tells an adult what another student did simply to get him or her into trouble. Telling is when a student tells an adult what another student did because that student's actions were unsafe or hurt another person.</i>

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Finish

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Start

