



Teasing/Bullying Situations and Responses

Practice for Kids

Adapted from: Preventing Classroom Bullying: What Teachers Can Do Copyright © 2003 Jim Wright
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Adults: Read and discuss the following situations in the left column with your children/teens/students. Assist them in arriving at acceptable, proactive responses such as those listed in the right column.

Bullying Situation	Acceptable Response
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?	1. Tell your friends to stop saying unkind things about a classmate. Refuse to participate in the conversation.
2. Name two trusted adults that you could go to if you need to talk with someone about bullying.	2. (Name any two adults in school/in the situation that are logical persons to discuss the bullying issue)
3. 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 looks different, acts 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?	3. Walk with the student to the cafeteria; confront the bullies if they pick on her. Tell an adult that bullies are hassling students down by the gym.
4. 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 your (or your sibling's/parent's) burn injury behind your back. You are starting to get really annoyed at them. What should you do?	4. Keep calm and don't try to retaliate by saying unkind things about other group in retaliation. If the comments really bother you, tell an adult.

5. What is the difference between *'tattling'* and *'telling'/reporting*?

5. *Tattling* is when a student tells an adult what another student did simply to get him or her into trouble.

Telling/reporting is when a student tells an adult what another student did because that student's actions were unsafe or hurt another person.

Bullying situation

6. 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 appearance of the student's burn scars. Even though you were just kidding, you can see that you *really* hurt that student's feelings a lot. Now you feel pretty bad. What should you do?

7. When you walk to school, other students who walk the same route to a nearby school will sometimes tease you about your (or your sibling's/parent's burns) and even slap you around. You are sick of it. What should you do?

8. One day, you walk into the classroom late because you had a doctor's appointment where you got permission to stop wearing your pressure garment, so your burns are now uncovered. 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?

9. 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 your brother's burn injuries. A small group of kids are already gathering around the graffiti and commenting on it. What should you do?

Acceptable Response

6. Approach the student and offer an apology. And be sincere.

In future, don't make joking comments that could hurt others' feelings.

7. Tell an adult at school (e.g., School Resource Officer) Tell your parent(s). Take a different route to school until the problem is taken care of.

8. 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.

9. 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.
