



Choose Peace Week 2012

Suggested MIDDLE SCHOOL Bullying Prevention Activities developed by students of Gulfstream Middle School

Slogan: Kindness is Priceless

Throughout history, money or currency, has symbolized people's wealth. Using money as a symbol of richness, activities have been developed to recognize kindness children show throughout their day. Taking it one step further, the synonyms for money can be used as a jumping off point for activities:

Account, bank, banknote, bankroll, bill, black, bread, bucks, capital, cash, checks, chips, coins, deposit, dollar, dough, finance, fund, gold, gravy, greenback, I.O.U, ledger, loot, pay, penny, red, riches, salary, reassure, wad, wage, wealth, withdrawal etc.

Student Pledge:

The dollar bill pledge is to promise to enrich the lives of others by spreading kindness.

Materials: Copies of dollar bill pledge sheet

I.O.U.

Teachers explain that an I.O.U is a promise for a future payment. Teachers should encourage a discussion on ways to prevent or stop others from bullying. Students will create an I.O.U form and make a promise for the future on a specific action they will take to not be a by-stander.

Materials: paper and pen or pencil

BANK:

Each class can create a bank that will be used to collect deposits of kindness. When students are "caught" spreading kindness by a teacher or other student, a token that represents kindness is deposited in the bank. Examples: loaning a peer a pencil, giving a peer a piece of paper, sitting with a new student, etc. A withdrawal can also be made from the bank. Examples: put downs, laughing at a student, teasing, arguing etc. A reward can be given to the class when the jar is full.

Materials: pennies or play money and small glass jars or zip lock baggies taped to the board.

BILL:

This activity can be done individually, in groups or as a class. The teacher explains that another meaning for the word bill (paper money) is a law, or asks students if they know another meaning for the word bill. Teachers then ask the students to write a "Bill Against Bullying" for their school.

Materials: Paper and pen or pencil.

WEALTH of Videos:

Using Flip Cameras, have students create one-minute video on i-Movie with the anti-bullying theme. These can be shown during morning announcements.

Materials: paper and pencils, props, markers, cameras, computers, microphone for voice-overs, music (optional) etc.

Assembly

To celebrate Choose Peace week, schools can assemble students either by grade-level or the entire school at the end of the week. Suggested activities include:

- Inviting a guest speaker to talk about the effects of bullying
- Preview the movie “Bullied”: A Teaching Tolerance Documentary”, presented by the Southern Poverty Law Center. For more information and to order the documentary visit www.splcenter.org
- Students can create and perform short plays, raps, poetry, or other forms of art.
- Ask all students to bring their signed student money pledges and display them as decorations for the assembly.
- Display the “Bill Against Bullying” developed by students with the slogan “Kindness is Priceless” and printed on the back ways to end bullying.
- Explain the school policy about bullying and what students can do if they are being bullied or witness someone else being bullied.
- Question and answer
- Celebration!

Materials: subject to your assembly.

In the RED or BLACK:

Teachers explain to students that in banking when you are in the “black” your finances are solid, but when you are in the “red” your finances are in trouble. For this activity black is okay and red is not okay. Students will work in pairs and write one red and one black bullying scenario on either side of an index card. The teacher, as the facilitator, will ask one person to read one of their scenarios (without disclosing whether it is written in black or red). The remaining students will respond by holding up a black or red piece of construction paper. The teacher may ask for clarification of their responses, and further input from the class.

Materials: One index card per pair of students. Each student should have a black and red piece of construction paper. Pencil or pen.

PAY it Forward:

Students are encouraged to nominate students for kindness on a “Pay it Forward” nomination form and deposit names in a collection box. On the morning announcements anchors can read a “shout out” about a student who has gone out of their way to show that “Kindness is Priceless”. The name of the person and the student who wrote the shout-out each get their names on a “Brag Buck” which goes into a drawing for a monthly reward (to be determined by the school).

Materials: “Pay it Forward” nomination form (near announcements), big container to hold Brag Buck (in the shape of a dollar bill) place to write student name.

LEDGER on Anti-Bullying:

Teacher explains that a ledger in accounting is a book that has the final financial information. Students will create a pamphlet to include: School Board Anti-Bullying Policy, individual school anti-bullying policy and procedures, information on where to report bullying incidents, resources for students to include telephone numbers, facts, etc.

Materials: paper, markers, computers, pencils, written policies, photos, school insignia etc.

ACCOUNTS:

It is important to provide a safe environment for students to express their feelings if they’ve been a victim of bullying, have witnessed bullying, or are themselves the bully. Give students a menu of outlets to describe an experience they had and how it made them feel. Examples: poem, story, illustration, song, rap, skit, comic strip, etc.