

Bullying Prevention: *Classroom Resources*



This **Quick Training Aid** was excerpted from *Preventing Bullying: A Manual for Schools and Communities*. US Department of Education (1998).

Both bullies and their victims need help in learning new ways to get along in school. Children need to learn about gaining, using and abusing power and about the differences between negotiating and demanding. They must also learn to consider the needs, behaviors and feelings of others. Curriculum developers and publishers now offer a variety of prevention/intervention materials to eliminate bullying and other forms of personal conflict from school life. Curricula such as those listed below are examples of tools that may be used as part of a comprehensive approach to bullying:

No Bullying. This Johnson Institute curriculum, first implemented during the 1996-97 school year in schools across the country, describes the tell-or-tattle dilemma facing many victims of bullying. Teachers are given step-by-step guidelines on how to teach students the difference between telling and tattling. Teachers are also shown how to establish and use immediate consequences when dealing with bullies.

Bullyproof: A Teacher's Guide on Teasing and Bullying for Use with Fourth and Fifth Grade Students. This guide by Lisa Sjoström and Nan Stein contains 11 sequential lessons designed to help children understand the difference between teasing and bullying and to gain awareness about bullying and harassment through class discussions, role-play and writing, reading and art exercises.

Bully-Proofing Your School. This program, available from Sopris West, uses a comprehensive approach. Key elements include conflict resolution training for all staff members, social skills building for victims, positive leadership skills training for bullies, intervention techniques for those who neither bully nor are bullied and the development of parental support.

Quit It! A Teacher's Guide on Teasing and Bullying. This guide by Merle Frosche, Barbara Sprung, and Nancy Mullin-Rindler with Nan Stein contains 10 lesson plans. Each lesson is divided into activities geared to the developmental needs of students in kindergarten through third grade. Class discussions, role plays, creative drawing and writing activities, physical games and exercises and connections to children's literature give children a vocabulary and a conceptual framework that allows them to understand the distinction between teasing and bullying.

Second Step. The Committee for Children's Second Step curriculum teaches positive social skills to children and families, including skill building in empathy, impulse control, problem solving and anger management. Initial evaluations of Second Step indicate that second and third grade students engaged in more prosocial behavior and decreased physically aggressive behavior after participating in the program.(6)

"Bullying." This video and accompanying teacher's guide (produced by South Carolina's Educational Television in collaboration with the Institute for Families In Society at the University of South Carolina) contains five lesson plans that incorporate classroom discussions, roleplaying and artistic exercises. It is appropriate for older elementary and middle-school students.