

# RAISING RESPECT

TAKE A STAND AGAINST BULLYING

FAMILY NEWSLETTER ISSUE 5  
Middle Level  
DECEMBER'S CHARACTER CONNECTION:  
RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

## BE RESPONSIBLE

No one has the right to bully

During December, your student is examining his or her rights and responsibilities as a student, friend, family member, teammate, and citizen. Help your student understand these principles using the tips and tricks below.

### Tips and Tricks

- Together with your student, discuss the following questions about student rights and responsibilities:
  - Does everyone in your school have the same rights that you do?
  - What can you do to make sure that everyone's rights are respected?
  - Who can you ask for help if your rights are being compromised?
  - Why is it YOUR responsibility to report bullying to an adult?
  - Who should you report bullying to? (Create a list of names.)
  - If you are a passive witness to bullying, are YOU a bully, too?
  - If you reported bullying to an adult, what action would you expect him or her to take?

### Table-Talk Topics

- Why do you think 50 percent of bullying incidents are not reported?
- Why do you think so many bystanders do not step in to help a victim?
- If you were a victim of bullying and many of your peers were passive witnesses to the bullying, what would you want to say to them?

### Plan and Practice

Present the following scenarios to your student:

- Your friend is constantly picking on another student. She makes fun of the other student, both to her face and behind her back.
- Your friend anonymously sent an e-mail with an unkind message to another student. The student who received the e-mail showed it to a counselor at school. Now the counselor is asking for information about who sent the e-mail.

For each scenario, ask:

- Is this bullying?
- What would you do in this situation?
- How would you feel in this situation?
- Has something like this ever happened to you?

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## Learn More!

Check out these resources to learn more:

- *The Bully Action Guide: How to Help Your Child and Get Your School to Listen*  
by Edward F. Dragan
- *The Everything Parent's Guide to Dealing with Bullies*  
by Deborah Carpenter and Christopher J. Ferguson
- <http://www.mcgruff.org/#/Main>