

FOURTH - FIFTH GRADE



Stop the Silence. Help End the Violence.

OK2SAY - Michigan's Student Safety Program

Today your child learned about OK2SAY, Michigan's Student Safety Program. During the presentation, students were informed how they can help make their school safer by reporting dangerous and concerning behaviors to a trusted adult. Students also learned tips and strategies for staying safe online and off. We encourage you to talk to your child about these important safety messages.

Follow-up Questions

1. What are some Internet Safety Rules?

Keep your personal information private. Do not share it with anyone online.

Never agree to meet anyone in person who you met online without parent approval.

Always tell a parent or trusted adult about any communication or conversation that was scary, hurtful, or uncomfortable.

2. What is personal information?

Your full name, address, phone number, pictures, school name, plans, events you are attending, and passwords.

3. Why is it important to only communicate with people we already know offline?

Sometimes people aren't always who they say they are. You have no way of knowing who you are really chatting with online. There are people who can cause us harm so it is very important that we are careful when we communicate with people online.

4. What should you do if someone online requests a photo or image that is suggestive?

Do not respond and promptly tell a trusted adult.

5. What is rude and mean behavior?

Rude: Accidentally saying or doing something that hurts feelings or embarrasses someone.

Example: Cutting in line, burping loudly, or talking over someone.

Mean: Saying or doing something on purpose to hurt someone maybe once or twice. Sometimes these words are said in anger to make someone else look bad. We usually feel regret later.

Example: Criticizing or making fun of someone's clothes, looks, or intelligence.

5. How is bullying different from mean and rude behavior?

Sometimes people have disagreements or arguments, and that's normal. They may say something that is hurtful, but that does not mean the behavior is bullying. If a person is mean on purpose over and over and knows that the people he or she is hurting can't defend themselves, the mean behavior is considered bullying.

6. What is cyberbullying?

Cyberbullying is a type of bullying that happens online. Examples include: mean text messages or emails; rumors sent by email; posting embarrassing pictures, videos, websites; or creating fake profiles to hurt others.

7. Why do you think people can be so cruel online?

People can be more hurtful because they don't see the pain in the other person's eyes when they send a mean or cruel message.

Some experts believe that cyberbullying is worse than physical bullying because the bullying follows the target everywhere.

Once something is posted online, it can never be recovered and removed. In addition, it can be hard to determine who is doing the cyberbullying because they may remain anonymous.

Also the person who is the cyberbully has the ability to quickly reach a broader audience.

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8. What should you do if you are being bullied online?

Don't respond or retaliate. Two wrongs don't make a right.

Block the bully.

Save the evidence.

Talk to a trusted adult.

Report physical threats to the proper authorities.

9. What can you do if you witness bullying?

Avoid joining in, laughing, or otherwise supporting the efforts of the individual being cruel. If you feel safe, tell the student who is bullying to stop. Tell a trusted adult about what you saw. Support the target by being a friend—maybe walking to class together, sitting with them at lunch and inviting them to social events. You can also contact [OK2SAY](#).

10. What is the difference between reporting and tattling?

Reporting is when the problem is important and urgent and you need an adult's help to fix it. Tattling is when you're trying to get someone in trouble, have something to gain, or you can fix the problem yourself or put it behind you.

11. When do I talk to a trusted adult?

It's important to reach out to a trusted adult whenever you need support or advice. Trust your gut to recognize these situations and take the initiative to seek help.

- When you encounter an issue or problem and you need guidance to find a solution.
- If you're being bullied, harassed, or facing any form of abuse.
- When you're feeling overwhelmed, stressed, or emotionally distressed and need someone to talk to.
- When you're making important decisions and need guidance or perspective.
- If you feel unsafe or at risk in any situation.

12. What is OK2SAY?

[OK2SAY](#) is a Michigan student safety program. The purpose of [OK2SAY](#) is to stop harmful behavior before it occurs by encouraging anyone to report threatening behavior. [OK2SAY](#) allows anyone to confidentially report tips on criminal activities or potential harm directed at Michigan students, school employees, or schools. It is designed to empower Michigan students, parents, school personnel, community mental health service programs, and law enforcement to share and respond to student safety threats. Anyone can confidentially submit tips 24/7 using the [OK2SAY](#) app, online at ok2say.com, texting [652729 \(OK2SAY\)](#), or by calling [855-565-3739 \(8-555-OK2SAY\)](#). For more information, visit ok2say.com.



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