Bullying Awareness in the Middle School Years

WebQuest Description: Is bullying a major problem in middle schools? Here is a webquest that can offer interactive videos, examples, and definitions of types of bullying that is going on in today's schools. This lesson will give students the opportunity to learn about what bullying is and the effects it has on others. This powerful webquest is perfect for middle school students to learn what to do if they are the victim, bystander, or bully. Please let make our school safer by addressing this very important topic to your students.

Grade Level: 6-8
Curriculum: English / Language Arts
Keywords: bullying, school safety
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Introduction

Have you ever been in a position where you have been made fun of by someone and they hurt your feelings? How did that make you feel? Have you ever been the person to make fun of someone? How did you feel? Did you take the time to realize the reactions on the other persons face? Have you ever done something you did no want to do but some else made you do it? These simple actions are types of bullying. Have you ever been bullied by another person? Many problems and situations happen in middle school that are hard to overcome. The following webquest is designed to give you some solutions and knowledge of what to do if someone is being bullied. Today in our middle schools there is more bullying than ever. With events like Columbine and Virginia Tech we need these acts of bullying to stop in order for students to feel safe in our schools. Please learn from this following webquest so we can make sure that these events don't happen again. How can you be part of the solution to end school violence and bullying?

Tasks

WEB QUEST DIRECTIONS

Link One: Go to http://stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov/index.asp?area=main
Click on What bullying is icon. Read So what is bullying? &nbsp; Click on Why do kids bully? &nbsp; Click the back arrow to go back to the main page.
Click on Signs you bully others. Follow the directions and do the quiz.
Click on the back arrow to go back to the main page. Or click back on what bullying is icon.
Click on Effects of bullying. And answer the corresponding questions.
Now watch either option of videos and complete the questions that follow each clip.
Option 1: Video #4, #5, #11.&nbsp; Option #2 Video #6, #9, #11. Option 1: is about girls deciding what clique to belong to.
Option 2: is about boys dealing with bullying.
Link Two: Go to http://mentalhealth.samhsa.gov/publications/allpubs/SVP-0052/
Click on Bullying is a form of abuse Hit back arrow to the main page
Click on some facts about bullying among children and young people. Scroll down to where does bullying take place?
Link Three: Go to http://kidshealth.org/teen/your_mind/problems/bullies.html
Read this article
Link Four: Go to http://www.kidshealth.org/teen/your_mind/problems/cliques.html
And answer the question
Link Five: Go to http://pbskids.org/itsmylife/friends/bullies/index.html
Click on Who's a Target
Click on Innocent Bystanders

WEB QUEST STUDENT ANSWER SHEET

Bullying happens when_____________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

List 5 behaviors that are classified as bullying &nbsp; 1.&nbsp; 2.&nbsp; 3. 4. 5.

What campaign have they developed? _______________________________________

Tab: So what is bullying? List 5 behaviors that are classified as bullying

Tab: Why do kids bully? What are 4 typical reasons of why kids bully others?

Tab: Effects of bullying What percent of U.S. students are bullied? What percent of U.S. students bully others? We all need to recognize that bullying as a __________ effect on lives of young people. It may not be happening to you __________, but it could happen __________. We can make the lives of young people __________. It causes young people a lot of __________, and it can affect their ability to do well in __________ and their __________.

Tab: We all need to recognize that bullying as a __________ effect on lives of young people. It may not be happening to you __________, but it could happen __________. We can make the lives of young people __________. It causes young people a lot of __________, and it can affect their ability to do well in __________ and their __________.

Tab: Effects of bullying What percent of U.S. students are bullied? What percent of U.S. students bully others? What are some negative attributes to bullying? Students who are bullied tend to
she ____________ it, and when you need it, ________________ will stand up for ___________.

________________ the way _______ would like to be _________________. _________________________ for someone when he or she _____________.

1.  2.  3.  4.  Tab: Innocent Bystander  What is one thing you can do if you see someone begin bullied?

Name 6 possible reasons for someone to get bullied  1.  2.  3.  4.  5.  6.   

Name 4 famous people who have been bullied.  1.  2.  3.  4.  Tab: Who's a target?  Roughly _______ out of ____________ kids experience bullying which equals _________%

http://pbskids.org/itsmylife/friends/bullies/index.html  Physical bullying   1.  2.  3.  Verbal bullying   1.  2.  3.  Relationship bullying   1.  2.  3.  Verbal bullying   1.  2.  3.  4.  5.  6.  7.  Tab: Dealing with Bullies  What are the two main reasons why people don’t fit in?  1.  2.  Name 3 reasons why bullies pick on kids?  1.  2.  3.  What are the two types of bullying mentioned in the article? Provide a definition with each type.

Define relentlessness?

What are two mental health problems associated with bullying?

What are four general characteristics of someone who bullies?

Bullies are actually _____________. They _____________. Some bullies have ____________, ____________, ____________, or _____________. It is vital to report bullying when ____________, ____________, or _____________.

High schoolers have died when _______ or _______. Name 5 ways to overcome bullying?

1.  2.  3.  4.  5.  Link Four: Coping with Cliques: http://www.kidshealth.org/teen/your_mind/problems/cliques.html  What is a clique?

What are five ways to survive cliques?  1.  2.  3.  4.  5.  Link Five: It’s My Life: http://pbskids.org/itsmylife/friends/bullies/index.html  Physical bullying  1.  2.  3.  Verbal bullying  1.  2.  3.  Relationship bullying  1.  2.  3.  Tab: Who’s a target? Roughly _______ out of ____________ kids experience bullying which equals _________% &nbsp; Name 6 possible reasons for someone to get bullied  1.  2.  3.  4.  5.  6.  &nbsp; Name 4 famous people who have been bullied.  1.  2.  3.  4.  Tab: Innocent Bystander  What is one thing you can do if you see someone begin bullied?

___________________________. Try to remember&hellip;  Treat _____________.

the way _______ would like to be _____________. _____________. for someone when he or she _____________. it, and when you need it, _____________. will stand up for ____________.
I hope you learned a great deal about bullying through this interactive webquest activity. It is meant to give you insight of what to do in various situations that deal with bullying. Bullying is a serious problem in our schools, so now is the time to make others aware of this problem. Start by spreading the word to STOP BULLYING In Our Schools! Also, talk with your teachers and staff to create and anti-bullying program that will stop bullying before it occurs. Become part of the SOLUTION and make a DIFFERENCE!

**Teacher Page**

**Introduction** I never thought I would see a day where students are afraid to come to school because another student is bullying them. School was once thought of a safe place to learn to acquire an education and gain positive relationships with teachers and fellow students. Unfortunately, this is not the case for every student who walks through the classroom doors. &nbsp; Our schools are beginning to change for the worse just by students interactions with one other on a daily basis. The students are starting to treat each other with disrespect and pure hatred and ultimately unfamiliar that their actions and words have affected others. This rise has led to an increase of acts of bullying in our schools. According to the National Youth Violence Prevention Resource Center &ldquo;almost 30% of youth in the United States (or over 5.7 million) are estimated to be involved in bullying as a bully, a target of bullying or both&rdquo; (Nansel 2001). A major concern is the field of education is what do we need to do in order for bullying to cease in our schools. I took interest in students bullying while I completed my student teaching and first year of teaching experiences in two different urban city school districts. I saw bullying as a big problem that had major effects on our students&rsquo; education. Students were unfamiliar with how to handle bullying situations. The National Youth Violence Prevention Resource Center states &ldquo;Bullying can lead the children and youth that are the target of bullying to feel tense, anxious, and afraid. It can affect their concentration in school, and can lead them to avoid school in some cases&rdquo; (Rigby 2001). These bullying encounters carried over to the students&rsquo; academic performances. I was interested in researching bullying and finding ways as educators in which we could make students aware of bullying and eventually putting an end to bullying in our schools. It is rare to find teachers who are trained and know what to do when students are bullied. I wanted to look past anti-bullying programs and see what we can do as educators to make these problems decline within the classroom setting &nbsp; The question I intend to investigate by research is: What effects would the integration of technology and literature within the classroom have upon students awareness of their own bullying in sixth grade? I feel this is an important topic that we as educators need to get to the bottom of. If the answer to stopping bullying in an educational setting is in the hands of the educators why not see what we can do. I believe that using a combination of technology and literature will help students become more aware of their bullying in an urban setting. There has been previous research by K.B. Quinn in the Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy, the article entitled: Using a novel to help understand and prevent bullying in the schools in 2003. Research has also been conducted by, Carol Hillsberg and Helene Spak at Wood Oaks Junior High School in Northbrook, Illinois, with an article entitled: Young Adult Literature as the Centerpiece of an Anti-Bullying Program in Middle School, in 2006. These studies are different than my research because I intend to include element of technology into my investigation as well performing my study of bullying in an urban school district. I have included technology and literature because I feel these are two components will generate high interest and motivation for learning. I believe connecting students with stories as well as being able to interact with material by using technology in the classroom easily engages students. My study will be significant in that my students will be actively involved in the process and be able to see their growth and understand their own forms of bullying in urban school district. I will be presenting my research to audiences in urban districts focusing on school administration and school board members. The research will be important to urban administrators because it will give them insight on what their own staff and educators can do in order to prevent bullying. Urban districts will able to see that the combination of technology and literature will

### Table: Category and Score

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category and Score</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Content</strong></td>
<td>Covers topic in-depth with details and examples. Subject knowledge is excellent.</td>
<td>Includes essential knowledge about the topic. Subject knowledge appears to be good.</td>
<td>Includes essential information about the topic but there are 1-2 factual errors.</td>
<td>Content is minimal OR there are several factual errors.</td>
<td>%25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Work Ethic</strong></td>
<td>Student always uses classroom project time well and does not disrupt others.</td>
<td>Student usually uses classroom project time well and typically does not disrupt others.</td>
<td>Student usually uses classroom project time well, but occasionally distracts others from their work.</td>
<td>Student does not use classroom project time well OR typically is disruptive to the work of others.</td>
<td>%25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Requirements</strong></td>
<td>All requirements are met and exceeded.</td>
<td>All requirements are met.</td>
<td>One requirement was not completely met.</td>
<td>More than one requirement was not completely met.</td>
<td>%25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Learning of Material</strong></td>
<td>The student has an exceptional understanding of the material included in the sites and where to find additional information. Can easily answer questions about the content and procedures used in the web quest.</td>
<td>The student has a good understanding of the material included in the sites. Can easily answer questions about the content and procedures used in the web quest.</td>
<td>The student has a fair understanding of the material included in the sites. Can easily answer most questions about the content and procedures used in the web quest.</td>
<td>Student did not appear to learn much from this project. Cannot answer most questions about the content and the procedures used in the web quest.</td>
<td>%25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Score</strong></td>
<td></td>
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make students more aware of their own bullying. The general study focus topic will include the overall investigation of bullying in middle schools. More specifically, investigations will include the characteristics and causes of bullying in a urban school district. The role of the researcher will be provide and administer of pre and post interviews, observations, surveys, and questionnaires to sixth grade students at Central Middle School in Euclid, Ohio. Students will complete a pre interview, survey, and questionnaire in order to gain students understanding of their background knowledge of the characteristics of bullying. The educator will also take student observation during instruction. The novel Freak the Mighty by Rodman Philbrick will be taught and focusing on the theme of bullying presented in the book. Also, students will be actively involved by being instructed by power points. In addition, students will do a webquest on bullying in order to gain an understanding of what bullying is and what students can do to prevent bullying. After, the completion of the novel and technology integration students will take a post interview, survey, and questionnaire in order to see their learning growth and understanding through the unit on literature and technology focusing on the main theme of bullying. The research will be completed within the sixth grade English classroom at Central Middle School in October 2008. In conclusion this research will help benefit educators, parents, and students because they will be able to see how instruction of technology and literature can help make students more aware of bullying. The results can help change instruction in order to minimize bullying in middle school setting just by alternating educators' instruction and curriculum.

Standards

Credits

Other