

Questions for discussion during the Anti-Bullying DVD Elementary Ages 5-12

Background knowledge beneficial for discussion before showing the video:

Try telling students that if they encounter a situation where a bully is demanding lunch money or will beat them up, they have 3 choices but only being *assertive* is appropriate:

3 types of conflict resolution

- a) *Passive*= Give the bully the money.
- b) *Aggressive* = Punch the bully in the nose
- c) *Assertive* = Use a firm “No.” If he continues threats, walk away or tell an adult.

I usually invite a student to role play these choices with me, overacting in a silly way with overly exaggerated gestures to get them to laugh about how ridiculous it is to punch a kid (for aggressive behavior) or to shrink away with a Charlie Brown voice (for passive behavior.) Then we role play the assertive no demonstrating the effectiveness of standing up for yourself peacefully.

Directions: The following questions are best asked when pausing the DVD at the appropriate chapters. (Example: Don’t Touch the Dolphin, Brooklyn Boys, etc.)

1. JoJo does not like being touched or pestered. Have you ever been touched or pestered in a way you didn’t like? How did you react?
2. If someone is acting up and not paying attention to what they are doing, like the Jet skier, do people sometimes get hurt?
3. Have you ever seen someone on the playground going too fast or not paying attention to what they were doing and then someone got hurt? What did you think?
4. Have you ever stepped in to help a friend who was hurt, like Dean did when JoJo was hit by a Jet Ski? Tell about it.
5. How was Dean a friend to JoJo?
6. What can you do to help a hurt friend?
7. How do you help if a friend’s feelings are hurt?
8. Do you think Dean was worried about JoJo when he was hit by a Jet Ski? What do you think went through his mind?
9. Why would five big men jump on JoJo?

10. What would you do if five guys grabbed you and tried to wrestle you to the ground?
11. What would you do if you saw someone try to grab and wrestle a friend to the ground?
12. Have you ever seen someone jump on someone else and hurt them?
13. How many people think that JoJo was just defending himself when he fought off the Brooklyn Boys? Did some think that JoJo attacked them?
14. That night the Brooklyn Boys said they were attacked by a dolphin and many people agreed with them. Do bullies sometimes get away with their harassing behaviors? Is this fair?
15. How does JoJo say no to water skis hurting him? Is he using the only language he knows?
16. How do you say no to dangerous situations?
17. If you chose to bully, like Maria did, might somebody take revenge on you?
18. What other consequences are possible for bullying?
19. In what ways are your friendships the same as Dean and JoJo's? How are they different?
20. When something bad is happening to people or animals, how can people take action to change it peacefully?