



Educator guide: Tic tac toe game

Recommended for grades:

1st grade

Time:

6 minutes

Prerequisites:

In order for students to be successful in the game students would benefit from participating in the following bullying prevention lessons:

- Feelings lesson (1st grade)
- Friends lesson (1st grade)
- Bullying lesson (1st grade)
- What to do lesson (1st grade)

National Health Education Standards:

This activity aligns with the following National Health Education Standards:

- Standard 1: Use functional health information to support health and well-being of self and others.
- Standard 4: Use interpersonal communication skills to support health and well-being of self and others.
- Standard 7: Demonstrate practices and behaviors to support health and well-being of self and others.

For more information on the National Health Education Standards, visit SHAPE America's website: shapeamerica.org.

Learning objectives:

After completing this activity students will be able to:

1. Recognize bullying behaviors in the school setting and share examples with class and teachers.
2. Give two positive example of what to do in a bullying situation.
3. Recognize behaviors that are friendly and behaviors that are unfriendly.
4. Define tattling and telling and be able to share one example with the class.
5. Describe one way to calm down when they are angry or becoming angry.
6. Give examples of what makes a good friend.



Game description:

In this game students will play Tic tac toe either against the computer in one player mode, or against each other in two player mode. During each turn, students must select an open square on the Tic tac toe grid, then answer a question about bullying prevention correctly to earn an X or an O in that square. Standard Tic tac toe rules apply: whomever gets three X's or O's across, down or diagonally wins the game.

All of the questions for the *Tic tac toe* game can be found in the transcripts, later in this guide. Questions appear in a random order throughout the game. Students may not see all questions during a game, so the game can be played more than once!



Vocabulary:

Use the following list of vocabulary as a reference for yourself and your students as you complete the Tic tac toe game. You may choose to use this list in any way that fits your needs.

- Bullying – when a person hurts another person on purpose, usually repeated over time and there is usually a difference in power
- Feelings – emotions such as being happy, sad, excited, scared or angry that can change throughout the day
- Friend – someone who supports you, who will like you for who you are and is there to help when you need them
- Friendly – doing things for others that are nice and welcoming, such as sharing a smile, inviting someone to sit or play with you or giving a compliment
- Serious – something that is very important or dangerous, serious situations mean you should tell an adult what is happening
- Tattling – reporting something unimportant to an adult to try and get someone else in trouble
- Telling – reporting something important to an adult because it is serious and someone may get hurt
- Trusted adult – a grown-up you can go to for help either at school, home or other safe place
- Unfriendly – doing things that are mean or hurtful like excluding someone, calling someone names, hitting or bullying another person

Handouts

Included on the following pages are additional resources that you and your students' families may find useful.



How to tell if your child may be involved in bullying

What is bullying?

Bullying is when someone hurts someone else on purpose. A lot of the time it happens more than once. Some things to know about bullying are:

- **There is a difference in power:** Kids who bully use their power to control or hurt someone's body or feelings. Their power might be strength or being more popular than others.
- **It is repeated:** Most of the time bullying happens more than once.
- **It is done on purpose:** Bullying happens when someone means to do it. If a child doesn't mean to bump into another child in the hall, that is not bullying.

Bullying includes actions like:

- Making threats
- Spreading rumors
- Hurting someone
- Not letting someone join a group

Bullying is learned, and respect must also be learned. Children copy what they see other children and adults doing. Try to set a good example.

Signs your child is being bullied

Look for changes in your child. Some children who are bullied may not show warning signs. Some signs that bullying might be a problem are:

- Unexplained injuries or bruises
- Lost or ruined clothes, books, school work, art or toys
- Headaches or stomachaches, feeling sick or faking illness to avoid school
- Changes in eating, like skipping meals or eating a lot
- Lower grades, loss of interest in school or not wanting to go to school
- Loss of friends or being left out
- More angry words or actions after seeing certain classmates or coming home from school
- Nervous behaviors like chewing nails or pulling out hair
- Becoming more withdrawn or fearful



Why don't kids ask for help?

Many times, kids do not tell an adult that someone is hurting or scaring them. Kids don't tell adults for many reasons:

- Bullying can make a child feel helpless.
- They might not want to be seen as a tattletale.
- They may be afraid of the child who bullied them.
- They may be afraid they will get in trouble.
- They may fear losing friends.

How can you find out if your child is being bullied?

Ask your child:

- Is something or someone scaring you or making you upset?
- Are you ever afraid to go to school? Why?
- Does anyone make you sad at school? Why?

What can you do to get your child help?

If you think your child needs help, don't ignore the problem. To deal with bullying at school, work with teachers and other school staff.

Always start with the classroom teacher. If the problem continues, the next step is to go to other administrators (counselor, principal or superintendent.) If the bullying is happening outside of school, talk with the adult in charge. This may be a coach, club advisor or group leader.

Signs a child may be bullying others

A child may be bullying others if they:

- Are being bullied by someone at home, in the neighborhood or at school
- Get into physical or verbal fights
- Have friends who bully others
- Blame others for their problems and make excuses for their actions
- Test limits or break rules
- Need to control others and situations



How to tell if your child is showing bullying behaviors?

You can:

- Attend parent teacher meetings.
- Ask your child how school is going.
- Ask your child about their friends.
- Watch your child play with others.

If your child needs to talk to someone

If your child is a victim or is showing bullying behaviors, they may need to talk to someone. Start with your child's school and see what resources they have. Check with your health care providers to see if they can share where you can find help.

Repurposed from <http://www.stopbullying.gov>. More information for parents and caregivers, children and educators may be found at this site.



Tattling vs telling

Tattling and telling are not the same thing. Children need to know the difference.

Tattling is when a child tells an adult about something another child did that is not going to hurt anyone. A lot of the time, it is about something that does not matter. It is done to get the other child in trouble.

Example: LaToya tells her teacher that she thinks Javon is looking at her in class.

Telling is when a child tells an adult about a serious situation where someone could get hurt.

Example: After school Joel hears Sam in the hall saying he's going to beat up his classmate. Joel finds Ms. Jones and tells her what he heard.

Talk with your child about tattling and telling.

Use these questions to get started.

1. What is the difference between tattling and telling?
2. Can you tell me about a time that you used telling to get help from an adult?
3. Can you tell me about a time that you tattled to try to get someone in trouble? Have you ever heard someone else tattle?

Repurposed from Bullying Prevention Program, WI Department of Public Instruction
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Transcript

Correct answers are in bold. During game play, game questions will be displayed randomly and all questions are not likely to be used during one play of the game.

Welcome Screen

Welcome to Tic tac toe. Select a one or two player game.

One player game

You will be playing Tic tac toe against the computer. The computer is X and you are O. You get to go first. Click one of the spaces on the board to start.

Answer this question to put an O in this space.

(After each turn): Now it's the computer's turn.

(After each computer turn): It's your turn. Select an open space.

Two player game

(First turn) O's go first. Select a space on the board to start. Answer this question to put an O in this space.

X's turn. Answer this question to put an X in this space.

O's turn. Answer this question to put an O in this space.

- If I help someone is that a friendly or unfriendly behavior?
 - **Friendly:** That's right! Helping someone is a friendly behavior.
 - **Unfriendly:** Sorry! Helping someone is a friendly behavior.
- If I do not let someone play with me is that a friendly or unfriendly behavior?
 - **Friendly:** Sorry! Not letting someone play with you is an unfriendly behavior.
 - **Unfriendly:** Correct! Not letting someone play with you is an unfriendly behavior.
- If I invite someone to play with me is that a friendly or unfriendly behavior?
 - **Friendly:** You got it! Inviting someone to play with you is a friendly behavior.
 - **Unfriendly:** Sorry! Inviting someone to play with you is a friendly behavior.
- If I call someone names is that a friendly behavior? Yes or no?
 - **Yes:** Sorry! Calling someone names is an unfriendly behavior.
 - **No:** That's right! Calling someone names is an unfriendly behavior.

- There are no right or wrong feelings. True or false?
 - **True:** That's right! All feelings are normal and healthy.
 - **False:** Sorry! All feelings are normal and healthy.
- Is yelling a good way to calm down when you're angry? Yes or no?
 - **Yes:** No, that's not correct. Yelling is not a good way to calm down when you're angry.
 - **No:** You're right! Yelling is not a good way to calm down when you're angry.
- Is counting to ten a good way to calm down when you're angry? Yes or no?
 - **Yes:** Absolutely! Counting to ten is a great way to calm down when you're angry.
 - **No:** Sorry! Counting to ten is a great way to calm down when you're angry.
- If I talk to an adult about a serious situation where someone could get hurt is that tattling or telling?
 - **Tattling:** Sorry! Talking to an adult about a serious situation is called telling.
 - **Telling:** Correct! It's always important to tell an adult about a serious situation.
- What is it called when you go to an adult and try to get someone in trouble for something that's not very important? Tattling or telling?
 - **Tattling:** Right! That's tattling.
 - **Telling:** Sorry! That's tattling!
- If I talk to a teacher at school about a kid in my class chewing gum, just to get them in trouble, is that tattling or telling?
 - **Tattling:** Right! That's tattling.
 - **Telling:** Sorry! That's tattling.
- If I talk to a teacher at school about a kid in my class who is calling me names every day, is that tattling or telling?
 - **Tattling:** Sorry! That's telling.
 - **Telling:** Right! That's telling.
- Bullying is when someone hurts another person on purpose. True or false?
 - **True:** Great job! Bullying is when someone hurts another person on purpose, and it usually happens more than once.
 - **False:** Sorry! Bullying is when someone hurts another person on purpose, and it usually happens more than once.
- Is ruining someone's things on purpose bullying? Yes or no?
 - **Yes:** Correct! Ruining someone's things on purpose is bullying.
 - **No:** Sorry! Ruining someone's things on purpose is bullying.

- Is arguing with a friend over what movie to watch bullying? Yes or no?
 - **Yes:** Sorry! Arguing with a friend over what movie to watch isn't bullying.
 - **No:** You're right! Arguing with a friend over what movie to watch is not bullying.
- Is making fun of someone every day at school bullying? Yes or no?
 - **Yes:** You got it! Making fun of someone is bullying, especially when it happens more than once.
 - **No:** Sorry! Making fun of someone every day is bullying.
- If you are being bullied is it ok to ask a friend for help? Yes or no?
 - **Yes:** You're right! Friends can be a big help if you are being bullied.
 - **No:** Sorry! Friends can be a big help if you are being bullied.
- Should you talk to an adult if you see bullying? Yes or no?
 - **Yes:** You got it! You should definitely talk to an adult if you see bullying.
 - **No:** Sorry! You should always talk to an adult if you see bullying.
- Should you push or shove someone if they are calling you names? Yes or no?
 - **Yes:** Sorry! You should never push or shove someone.
 - **No:** Correct! You should never push or shove someone.

Win/Lose/Tie (1 player)

O's win! Click either the one or two player button to play again.

Sorry, X's win. Click either the one or two player button to play again.

This game ends in a tie. Click either the one or two player button to play again.

Win/Lose/Tie (2 player)

O's win! Click either the one or two player button to play again.

X's win. Click either the one or two player button to play again.

This game ends in a tie. Click either the one or two player button to play again.



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