



Educator Guide: Welcome to Newbridge Activity

Recommended for Grades:

6th, 7th and 8th

Time:

5 minutes

Learning Objectives:

After completing this activity students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate how to have a conversation with a character at Newbridge Middle School.
2. Demonstrate how to access videos using the cell phone tool.
3. Demonstrate how to access lessons using the cell phone tool.

Activity Description:

In this activity students are introduced to Newbridge Middle School, the fictional setting for the 6th, 7th and 8th grade Act Now! activities and will meet some of the characters at the school. This introduction to Newbridge provides instructions for how to navigate the Act Now! activities, engage in conversations with characters and learn about the school's bullying problem. Students get a chance to try out their virtual cell phone, the tool they will use throughout those activities. This activity is a pre-requisite for the 6th, 7th and 8th grade Act Now! activities.



Vocabulary:

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

- Acceptance – approving of and including someone even if they are different from you
- Bullying – unwanted, aggressive behavior that involves a real or perceived power imbalance, and is usually repeated over time
- Compassion – a feeling of wanting to help someone who is hurt or suffering
- Cultural background – the beliefs, values, customs and traditions that a person or group of people inherit from their ancestors
- Economic status – a person’s position in society, measured by things like income, wealth, job and education level
- Physical differences – differences in physical characteristics of people that can be seen, such as height, weight, hair color, eye color, body shape, etc.
- Respect – treating others how you would like to be treated, and valuing their opinions, feelings and boundaries
- Trusted adult – a grown-up at home, school or other safe place that you can go to for help
- Understanding – a state of cooperative or mutually tolerant relations between people

Transcript

Narrator Welcome to Newbridge Middle School. This is your orientation course. Please take a moment to meet some of the friendly students here. Move your mouse over each of the characters and then click on one character to choose him or her.

Character	Hey. That's our principal, Dr. Schafer. He doesn't actually know what goes on here. Anyway, let's hang out for a minute. I'm [Character name]. Click one of the response bubbles below to respond to me.		
Player	One of these?	So, this is how we talk?	You mean <i>these</i> bubbles?
Character	That's right! While you're at Newbridge, there'll be people in different places that you can talk to, like you're talking to me.		
Player	What else can I do?	It's all just talking to people?	OK. Then what?
Character	Sometimes you'll be in a room by yourself. That's when you have to explore and find out what's going on. Just move your mouse around to see what's clickable. Like in here, you can check out the poster on the wall. Go ahead. Click it.		
Poster	[Image of Zink the Zebra] I stand for understanding, respect, compassion and acceptance. I am here to spread the word that regardless of interests, education, cultural background, economic status, level of ability, and/or physical differences, everyone wants to feel accepted.		
Player	I might need help sometimes.	Can I call somebody if I get lost?	Are you allowed to have phones at Newbridge?
Character	You can open your phone any time by clicking the phone icon in the lower right corner. The phone has tons of apps on it. You can get help with what you're doing, download videos, get texts, all kinds of stuff. You can change the ringtone and the background, too. Try it out! Click on each of the phone's icons to see what it does.		

Cell Phone (text prompts)

Phone	<i>Help</i>	This is where you go to get help. Whether you're talking to someone, exploring a room, or anything else, you'll find good advice here.
	<i>Get the Facts</i>	You will be notified when it's time to learn some facts about bullying.
	<i>Message</i>	When you have a text message waiting, this is how you read it. This phone only receives texts, though. You can't send any.
	<i>Ringtone</i>	[Selecting this icon circulates through three distinct ringtones]
	<i>Background</i>	[Selecting this icon circulates through several background designs]
	<i>Videos</i>	You'll be directed when to watch videos about bullying. Click this icon when told to see a video on your phone.

Character continues conversation after the phone is closed.

Player	Got it. Now what's going on here?	Uh, what am I doing here?	What's the point of all this?
Character	Newbridge has sort of a bullying problem. You're here to find out about it. Hopefully you'll act right. You have a lot of power to influence others.		
Player	Cool. Let's go.	Just you and me, huh?	So you'll be my guide the whole way?
Character	Actually, you won't be with me for sure. You'll pick three different Newbridge students to use throughout the game. You'll get to make two or three choices about bullying with each character.		
Player	Whoa.	Weird.	Serious?
Character	Yeah, and here's the other thing. Depending on how you act as one character, you might or might not get hassled by that person when you're using another character.		
Player	Huh?	Don't get it.	What?



Character	Well, if you pick your first character and act like a jerk, then later in the game, when you're using another character, the first kid will come back and treat you like crap.		
Player	Oh, I get it now.	Wow. That's kind of interesting.	I see.
Character	Then when you're done, you get a report about how you did. But even if you were a jerk the whole time, you'll get a couple more chances to play the game, probably.		
Player	You mean on separate days?	So I'll play once, then maybe come back later.	I can do different stuff when I come back, then?
Character	Right. As long as you make different choices, you'll get a different ending. But I'm not gonna give away <i>too</i> much. Hey, I gotta go. Dr. Schafer will probably do some more announcements in a second. He's not a bad guy, just kind of out of the loop about the bullying here. Anyway, good luck. Maybe I'll see you later. Bye!		
Player	Bye!	So long.	See ya.

Narrator You have now completed your orientation course. Hope you have a super day at Newbridge, home of the Highlanders.



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Contact us:

**Children's Wisconsin
E-Learning Center**

(866) 228-5670

healthykids@childrenswi.org

