

Name:

Day One

It Gets Better

Part 1: Silent read

➔ Does the internet make bullying better or worse? Read silently.

What do Barack Obama, the Red Sox, and Kesha have in common? They are all part of the “It Gets Better Project.” “It Gets Better” is a website created for gay youth. Gay young people are often targets for bullies. Students who are targeted may feel hopeless. They may feel they will never be accepted. The “It Gets Better Project” tells gay youth that their lives will get better. The message is to have hope during the difficult teenage years. The website includes upbeat videos with basketball players and Marines. Stars like Raven-Symone add their voices. The project also includes links to helplines and other supports for gay teens.

Although websites can give positive messages, bullying is common on the web. The media talks about the problem of “cyberbullying.” Cyberbullies are bullies who use texts, emails, or social media. On the web or over the phone, bullies don’t have to confront their victims. Technology can also help bullies spread their messages. With social media or texts, a bully can forward a mean rumor or photo to dozens of classmates. As many as 40 percent of teens who use the internet are bullied. Girls are even more likely to be cyberbullied than boys.

The U.S. government has declared that bullying is a national problem. President Obama said, “We’ve got to dispel this myth that bullying is just a normal rite of passage. It’s not.”



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// one minute

Part 2: First timed read

WPM _____

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Although websites can give positive messages, bullying is common on the web. The media talks about the problem of “cyberbullying.” Cyberbullies are bullies who use texts, emails, or social media. On the web or over the phone, bullies don’t have to confront their victims. Technology can also help bullies spread their messages. With social media or texts, a bully can forward a mean rumor or photo to dozens of classmates. As many as 40 percent of teens who use the internet are bullied. Girls are even more likely to be cyberbullied than boys.

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Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

How can the web help students who are targeted for being gay?

What is cyberbullying?

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Part 4: Phrase-cued reading

- Read the passage **out loud** in phrases to your partner.
- Pause at each / mark for a phrase.
- Also pause at each // mark that shows the end of a sentence.

What do Barack Obama, / the Red Sox, / and Kesha / have in common? // They are all part of the “It Gets Better Project.” // “It Gets Better” is a website created for gay youth. // Gay young people are often targets for bullies. // Students who are targeted may feel hopeless. // They may feel they will never be accepted. // The “It Gets Better Project” tells gay youth that their lives will get better. // The message is to have hope / during the difficult teenage years. // The website includes upbeat videos with basketball players / and Marines. // Stars like Raven-Symone add their voices. // The project also includes links to helplines and other supports / for gay teens. //

Although websites can give positive messages, / bullying is common on the web. // The media talks about the problem of “cyberbullying.” // Cyberbullies are bullies who use texts, / email, / or social media. // On the web or over the phone, / bullies don’t have to confront their victims. // Technology can also help bullies spread their messages. // With social media or texts, / a bully can forward a mean rumor or photo to dozens of classmates. // As many as 40 percent of teens who use the internet are bullied. // Girls are even more likely to be cyberbullied / than boys. //

The U.S. government has declared that bullying is a national problem. // President Obama said, / “We’ve got to dispel this myth / that bullying is just a normal rite of passage. // It’s not.” //

I read the passage in phrases out loud to my partner.