

Name:

Day One

Snitching and Reporting

Part 1: Silent read

→ When should you tell on a classmate? Read silently.

“You should never rat out your friends,” Darius says. Many agree that tattling or snitching is wrong. Being seen as a snitch can make you very unpopular.

Professor Larry Meeks believes there is a difference between snitching and reporting. In a *Los Angeles Daily News* article, Meeks argued that someone who sells out another person to save himself is snitching. Someone who tattles because he holds a grudge against that person is also snitching. But reporting is different. It’s telling people in authority about a situation that can harm others. For example, telling a teacher when somebody at school is planning to cause serious trouble is reporting.

Many students agree with Professor Meeks. They would rather be called a snitch than risk the safety of their friends. James, an eighth-grader at Ringer Middle School, was reported to the principal when he brought a starter pistol to school. Some students thought it was a real gun. Although James didn’t threaten other students, he understood why he was turned in. “If I thought my friends were in danger, I would have done the same thing.”

Some schools set up a system of peer mediators. Students often find it easier to trust each other than adults. Peer mediators become aware of problems that adults might never hear about. If necessary, they can report potential trouble to teachers or the principal.



Day One

// one minute

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Part 2: First timed read

WPM _____

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Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

What is a snitch?

What does a peer mediator do?

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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.

“You should never rat out your friends,” / Darius says. // Many students agree that tattling or snitching is wrong. // Being seen as a snitch can make you very unpopular. //

Professor Larry Meeks believes / there is a critical difference between snitching / and reporting. // In a *Los Angeles Daily News* article, / Meeks argued that someone who sells out another person / to save himself / is snitching. // Someone who tattles / because he holds a grudge against that person / is also snitching. // But reporting is different. // It’s telling people in authority / about a situation that can harm others. // For example, / telling a teacher when somebody at school is planning to cause serious trouble / is reporting. //

Many students agree with Professor Meeks. // They would rather be called a snitch / than risk the safety of their friends. // James, / an eighth-grader at Ringer Middle School, / was reported to the principal when he brought a starter pistol to school. // Some students thought it was a real gun. // Although James didn’t threaten other students, / he understood why he was turned in. // “If I thought my friends were in danger, / I would have done the same thing.” //

Some schools set up a system of peer mediators. // Students often find it easier to trust each other / than adults. // Peer mediators become aware of problems / that adults might never hear about. // If necessary, / they can report potential trouble to teachers or the principal. //

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