

**Name:**

## Day One

# Bullying: A Real Problem

### Part 1: Silent read

→ How can bullying be stopped? Read silently.

In fifth grade, Mike had plenty of friends. But when he entered middle school, the trouble started. Other kids began to bully him. They spread rumors about Mike. When he walked down the hallway, students shot rubber bands at him. “The message was just go away,” he said. “Don’t even try to talk to us.” Mike didn’t know why he became a target. The bullying even became physical. Kids pushed him in the lunch line.

Mike is one of thousands of students who get bullied each day. Bullying is mean or aggressive behavior that gets repeated. Bullying reaches a peak in the teenage years. Some students bully to feel powerful. Others bully to be part of a group. Sometimes bullies are put down or abused at home. They may use bullying to feel more confident.

When bullies are teasing or hurting a victim, there often are bystanders. They may be laughing or watching silently. Some bystanders feel power when someone else gets hurt. Or perhaps they are afraid. After all, if you stick up for the victim, you may become a target yourself.

School anti-bullying programs try to help students understand bullies. They give an overview of what bullying looks like and how it can be stopped. Bystanders can be important in stopping bullying. A bystander can undercut a bully by refusing to laugh or watch. “The community can take away the bully’s power,” one teacher says.



## Day One

// one minute

# Bullying: A Real Problem

### Part 2: First timed read

WPM \_\_\_\_\_

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### Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

What is bullying?

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What can bystanders do to stop bullying?

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## Day One

# Bullying: A Real Problem

### 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.

In fifth grade, / Mike had plenty of friends. // But when he entered middle school, / the trouble started. // Other kids began to bully him. // They spread rumors about Mike. // When he walked down the hallway, / students shot rubber bands at him. // “The message was / just go away,” / he said. // “Don’t even try to talk to us.” // Mike didn’t know / why he became a target. // The bullying even became physical. // Kids pushed him / in the lunch line. //

Mike is one of thousands of students / who get bullied each day. // Bullying / is mean or aggressive behavior / that gets repeated. // Bullying reaches a peak in the teenage years. // Some students bully to feel powerful. // Others bully to be part of a group. // Sometimes bullies are put down / or abused / at home. // They may use bullying to feel more confident. //

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