



Anti-Bullying Lesson Plan

In association with our For Good partners:



LESSON OBJECTIVE

- ✦ Using the story of *WICKED*, to understand different types of bullying, explore why people bully and discuss what to do if you see bullying at your school.



WICKED

WICKED IS...

- **WICKED** is the story of the Wicked Witch of the West, from *The Wizard of Oz*.
- **WICKED** shows us a different perspective on the Wicked Witch of the West's story and challenges our prejudice or preconceptions about someone we think we know well.
- Elphaba is the Wicked Witch of the West, and Glinda is the Good Witch. They meet at university.
- Elphaba is green, she is different. People are afraid of her when they first meet.
- Glinda is very popular, and initially they don't get on at all – Glinda even bullies Elphaba. But they become best friends.
- In **WICKED** people are not as they seem. **WICKED** challenges our first impressions and our perceptions about people around us.



WICKED

WHAT IS BULLYING?

THROUGH CLASS DISCUSSION, COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING TASKS:

- Together, create a dictionary definition of bullying. Start your definition Bullying is...
- Now think of as many different types of bullying as you can.
- Why do you think people bully each other?



DEFINITION OF BULLYING

The repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power



Anti-Bullying Alliance has advice for young people facing bullying:
anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk

Power. Popularity. Difference.

- In **WICKED**, some of the characters are bullied.
- What do words “Popularity”, “Power” and “Difference” mean to you?
- Look at the characters to the right. On your own, write down as many words as you can to describe each of them. These are your *first* impressions.



Elphaba



Glinda

SHARE AND DISCUSS

What words did you write down about Elphaba and Glinda? Compare these as a class.

Now, answer the following questions about each character:

- Do you think she is bullied? Why?
- How do you think she feels when she goes to school?
- Do you think she always feels like this?



“... SO WHAT?”

- ✦ Sometimes we all feel happy and confident like Glinda. But other times, we feel less good about ourselves: we feel more like Elphaba, we might feel shy, or on our own.
- ✦ On your own, think about a time when you felt really good and confident, and a time when you felt less good, perhaps you were on your own.



WICKED

DIFFERENCE: A LOOK AT ELPHABA

- 🦋 Elphaba is different. She is green. Sometimes, we all feel different, like Elphaba. Being different from others is what makes us special and unique.

Game: Stand Up Sit Down

- 🦋 Your teacher will read 10 statements aloud to the class.
- 🦋 Stand up if the statement being read out is true for you.
- 🦋 If the statement is not, students should stay seated.
- 🦋 If you are sitting down when a statement is read out, you should applaud the students who have stood up.



DISCUSSION

- How did it feel to stand up? How did it feel to be applauded by others?
- Were you surprised by some of the differences between people in the class?
- We are all different from each other in lots of ways. Do you think we are good at celebrating these differences in our class and school? What could we do to celebrate our differences more?
- How can we make sure that no one experiences hurtful language or behaviour from others because of these differences? What should we do if we do see this happen?



POPULARITY & POWER: A LOOK AT GLINDA

- At the beginning of *WICKED*, Glinda is popular. She has lots of power, and she uses it against Elphaba.
- What sort of words would you use to describe a popular person?
- How do you know they are popular?
- What words did not come up in the discussion? Does possessing these qualities mean you can't be popular?
- Is it important to be popular? Why / Why Not?
- Being popular is one way that you can feel more powerful than others. What other characteristics might make you feel more powerful than someone else?



DISCUSSION

- One of the things that defines bullying behaviour is the imbalance of power. This means using whatever power you have over another person to deliberately hurt them. You have a choice to either use the power you have for good or for bad.
- In *WICKED*, Glinda uses her power to hurt Elphaba's feelings. But then she realises she can use this power to be kind to Elphaba and change people's opinion of her. Elphaba and Glinda then become friends, and Elphaba stops being bullied.
- Look at the list of characteristics you have listed which make people popular. In groups, choose 3 characteristics. How could a popular person use this characteristic for good or bad?
- We've been talking a lot about face to face behaviour. How might someone use their power and popularity for good or for bad in cyberspace?



WICKED

WICKED ROLE PLAY

- When Elphaba arrives at Shiz University, she is hopeful that things will be good for her there. But things are difficult because she is seen as different.
- In groups, create a role play of what you think when Elphaba arrives at Shiz University. How do you think the other students react to her? How do you think the scene might change when Elphaba arrives?
- Now role play what would have to change for Elphaba to feel welcome at the University? What role might Glinda play?
- Discuss how as a pupil/ class and whole school you can make sure everyone feels welcome, included and valued?



ROLE PLAY: CYBERBULLYING

- Now imagine that Elphaba was around today, and was being bullied online. Create an improvisation which shows this type of bullying, and its effect on Elphaba.
- How might you be able to 'stand up' to cyberbullying online?
- Now, introduce more characters to the scene – these people will help Elphaba by challenging behaviour online. What can they do?



THE CYBERSMILE FOUNDATION

Cybersmile aims to make the internet a more positive place, and offers information and advice to people who are experiencing or witnessing Cyberbullying. For more information, visit: [cybersmile.org](https://www.cybersmile.org)



WICKED

STONEWALL'S NO BYSTANDERS CAMPAIGN

🦋 No Bystanders In Our School Campaign

- Discuss what is meant by the word 'bystander'.
How could a Bystander effect change?

🦋 How can the whole school community ensure that there are no bystanders to hurtful language or behaviour in school? Discuss the following in groups:

- What can we do as a class?
- What could teachers do?
- What could the head teacher do?

🦋 Extension discussion: What could the wider community do?

NoBystanders is Stonewall's campaign to bring together people from all over the world to challenge abusive language. To download challenge campaign materials and for ways to involve your school, visit nobystanders.org



WICKED

WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED? DISCUSS & SHARE

- ✚ In groups, create a presentation about what you have learned.
The following questions might help you:
- ✚ Why do people bully others?
- ✚ What kinds of bullying are there?
- ✚ What should we do if we see someone being bullied face to face or online?
- ✚ What can we do if we're worried about bullying?

For more information and advice about bullying visit:
anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk, cybersmile.org.uk,
stonewall.org.uk. To speak to someone in confidence,
call Childline: **0800 1111**



WICKED