



THE MISSION

bullying — how can we be bully free?

CHALLENGE 2.1

suggested duration: 1 lesson

What is THE CHALLENGE?

The Challenge is a product-based learning experience, putting freshmen in the driver's seat to make a difference for their school, their community, and their futures!

Working collaboratively over a period of 50 Freshman Focus lessons, ninth graders must complete five missions to win The CHALLENGE. Each mission requires purposeful research, planning, and teamwork and can't be finished without the creation of an authentic product that solves a real problem.

The Challenge makes freshmen the decision makers and the problem solvers in their school — all to ease the transition into high school and make it a great experience!

The Missions

Mission #1

**School Spirit —
How Can We Make It Happen?**

Mission #2

**Bullying —
How Can WE be Bully FREE?**

Mission #3

**Leadership —
Can We All Be Leaders?**

Mission #4

**Safe & Healthy Decisions —
Is It Worth the Risk?**

Mission #5

**Skills & Jobs —
Will We Be Ready for Work?**

The school guidance department needs the help of the ninth grade class. Bullying continues to be a problem in the school, and counselors want to make sure all students have the support they need. Your second mission is to raise awareness about the consequences of bullying and do your part to combat and stop it from happening so the school can be bully free!

Directions

- In a large group setting, share the mission with students. Use the text above as a guide.
- Locate and share recent articles/videos/stories with students about bullying incidents that illustrate the seriousness of this issue. Explain to students that they have an opportunity to combat bullying in their own school and have been given a mission from the school guidance department to make a difference.
- Encourage students to react to the mission they have been given: Who bullies? Why are certain kids picked on? Is this a problem at our school? Who is responsible? What can we do about bullying?

Implementation Suggestions

In an effort to make the mission as authentic as possible, spend some time planning a powerful entry event:

- Invite a local expert to speak about bullying, statistics, and its effects.
- Make copies of newspaper/internet articles depicting real stories of bullying tragedies.
- Share videos about bullying.

- Consult the resources "Challenge Overview" and "Sample Entry Events" for additional information.
- Create a class blog to generate responses to the mission. Encourage students to talk with friends, siblings, parents, etc. about the problem and the mission. What reactions do they get? Do these people offer a different perspective on the issue?

