

# SCRIPT

Grade 4 Health TEKS 115.16

(14)(A) analyze distinguishing characteristics of cyberbullying

## Slide One

DLF Presents...

## Slide Two

Distinguishing Characteristics of Cyberbullying

*Note: This presentation is really two, the TEK only mentions distinguishing characteristics, but I thought we should explain a bit more to be useful.*

*Blue and Orange Digital*

[http://p9cdn4static.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server\\_804323/File/School%20Resources/Cyberbullying%20Awareness/What%20is%20Cyber%20Bullying.pdf](http://p9cdn4static.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_804323/File/School%20Resources/Cyberbullying%20Awareness/What%20is%20Cyber%20Bullying.pdf)

## Slide Three

What is cyberbullying? I bet everyone here knows. Who can tell me? *Ask students to provide examples, then summarize.* Yes, cyberbullying is bullying through email, instant messaging, chat room exchanges, website posts, or digital messages and images sent to a cell phone. Cyberbullying, like traditional bullying, involves an imbalance of power, aggression, and a negative action that is often repeated.

## Slide Four

Cyberbullying has some rather unique characteristics that are different from traditional bullying.

## Slide Five

Anonymity is the first distinguishing characteristic of cyberbullying.

What does anonymity mean? Let's think about the root word, *anonymous*. What does that mean?

Right, *anonymous* means not identified by name. As bad as the "bully" on the playground may be, they can easily be identified and potentially avoided. On the other hand, the child who cyberbullies may remain anonymous. The victim is left wondering who the cyberbully is, which can cause a great deal of stress.

Nowadays, many cyberbullies use fake names or they use various apps that allow them to be anonymous.

## Slide Six

The second characteristic that makes cyberbullying different from traditional bullying is accessibility. Most children who use traditional ways of bullying terrorize their victim at school, on the bus, or walking to or from school. Although bullying can happen elsewhere in the community, there is usually a standard period of time during which bullies have access to their victims.

Today, many of us take our cyberbully with us everywhere we go because we are never away from our phones. Cyberbullies can wreak havoc any time of day or night.

## Slide Seven

### Punitive Fears

Other way cyberbullying is different is that many students are afraid to report it out of fear that their cyberbully will attack them more and because they are afraid that their computer or phone privileges will be taken away as the adults who love them try to protect them.

Adults often try to limit time students have on devices if they are being cyberbullied to give them a break from seeing what the cyberbully is saying.

So when you tell the adults you live with you are being cyberbullied, explain to them that you are afraid to tell them because losing your phone would seem like more punishment and ask them to help you find other ways to deal with the cyberbullying. Also, be sure to report the cyberbullying at school so it can be investigated and stopped.

## Slide Eight

Another unique characteristic that is different from traditional bullying is the number of bystanders.

Most traditional bullying episodes occur in the presence of other people who assume the role of bystanders or witnesses. The phenomenon of being a bystander in the cyber world is different in that they may receive and forward messages, view web pages, forward images sent to cell phones, etc. The number of bystanders in the cyber world can reach into the millions.

But, I know no one in this class would like, comment on, or forward bullying messages, right?

## Slide Nine

Disinhibition is the next characteristic that is different between bullying and cyberbullying. But goodness, what does it mean? Any guesses?

Disinhibition is saying or doing something on a whim, without thinking in advance of what could be the unwanted or even dangerous result. Disinhibition is the opposite of inhibition, which means being in control of the way you respond to what's going on around you.

The anonymity afforded by the internet can lead children to engage in behaviors that they might not do face-to-face. Ironically, it is their very anonymity that allows some individuals to bully at all.

## Slide Ten

Common forms of cyberbullying

## Slide Eleven

Harassment: repeatedly sending offensive, rude, and/or insulting messages.

### **Slide Twelve**

Denigration: distributing information about another that is derogatory and untrue through posting it on a webpage, sending it to others through email or instant messaging, or posting/sending digitally altered photos of someone

### **Slide Thirteen**

Flaming: online "fighting" using electronic messages with angry, vulgar language.

### **Slide Fourteen**

Impersonation: breaking into an email or social networking account and using that person's online identity to send or post vicious or embarrassing material to/about others.

### **Slide Fifteen**

Outing and trickery: sharing someone's secrets or embarrassing information, or tricking someone into revealing secrets or embarrassing information and forwarding it to others.

### **Slide Sixteen**

Cyberstalking: repeatedly sending messages that include threats of harm or intimidation, or engaging in other online activities that make a person afraid for their safety.

### **Slide Seventeen**

Throughout the United States, cyberbullying is punishable by civil and criminal laws. In Texas, one of the methods of punishing aggressors is utilizing "David's Law." David's Law created the framework for how students who are victims of cyberbullying can be protected.

<https://crime-stoppers.org/davids-law-what-is-it-and-who-benefits/>

### **Slide Eighteen**

Reporting Bullying and Cyberbullying

- School Principal
- School District Website
- Teacher

### **Slide Nineteen**

End