

# Giving Cyberbullying a Specific Name

**Time needed:** 30 minutes

**Recommended Level:** Grade 5-8

**Categories:** Cyberbullying, Defining

**Common Core Standard(s):** Writing to convey information,  
Speaking & Listening

**Purpose:** Students will identify different types of bullying and recognize the technologies associated with them.

## DISCUSSION:

Below are ten types of cyberbullying. (A few could go by multiple names.) Share this information with your students in a method of your choice. *You may opt to make a flipchart or PPT to present this information.*

**Flaming or Trolling** - Sending angry, rude, vulgar messages directed at a person or persons privately or to an online group with the intention of "inflaming" the emotions of others.

**Harassment** - Repeatedly sending a person hurtful or offensive messages.

**Cyberstalking** - Harassment that include threats of harm.

**Outing and Trickery** - Sending or posting material about a person that contains sensitive, private, or embarrassing information, including forwarding private messages or images. Engaging in tricks to solicit embarrassing information that is then made public.

**Defamation or Denigration** - Sending or posting untrue or harmful statements about a person to other people. "Dissing" someone to ruin his/her reputation.

**Imitation or Masquerade** - Pretending to be someone else by creating a fake account to represent him/her and sending or posting material that makes that person look bad or places that person in potential danger.

**Identity Theft and Impersonation** - stealing someone's password and/or hijacking an online accounts to send or post incriminating or humiliating pictures, videos or information or to sign the victim up for e-mailing and marketing lists.

**Exclusion** - Actions that specifically and intentionally exclude a person from an online group, such as exclusion from an IM friends list, or a real world group.

**Sending Malicious Code** - A cyberbully may send viruses, spyware and hacking programs to their victims. They do this to either destroy their computers or spy on their victim.

**Internet Polling** - Posting questions that are offensive to others such as "Who is the biggest liar in the sixth grade?"

Resources for students to explore:

<http://www.cyberbullying.info/whatis/types.php>

<http://www.teenwirral.com/staying-safe/bullying/types-cyber-bullying>

## ACTIVITY:

Share the purpose of this activity with the students. Depending on the amount of time you have to commit to this activity, you may opt to allow students to read and explore the definitions on their own. Post or record each type of cyberbullying with the students; taking time to allow for questions and clarification.

Have students select one type of cyberbullying from the list that they can imagine or recall an example that illustrates the method. If students choose to use a real example, remind them to be respectful of other people. Unless they have permission to share names, they should use aliases.



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Give the students one minute to find two partners who selected different methods of cyberbullying. Some students may negotiate to work together by changing their selection.

Explain that each person in the group will have a role: storyteller, recorder and timer. Each student will take each role once as they rotate through the activity.

- Storyteller: Remind your group which method you are going to illustrate. Provide a real or made-up scene that fits that type of cyberbullying.
- Recorder: Using whatever method works best for you to capture the story to retell it.
- Timekeeper: Make sure the storyteller does not go over three minutes.

Give students a 2 minute warning so that they know they need to begin wrapping it up.

Allow students ten minutes to exchange stories. Provide a group warning after 9 minutes. At the end of the ten minutes, call the whole group together.

Ask for volunteers to share a story for each type of cyberbullying.

*Optional: keep a record in chart format.*

**FOLLOW-UP:**

If you use a chart, save it for a follow-up activity where you add a column on what can be done to stop the cyberbullying. Students can generate ideas from the bully, bystander, and victim perspectives.

Online games that reinforce the vocabulary/labels: <http://www.purposegames.com/game/e328fa39ef>  
<http://quizlet.com/4622147/8-types-of-cyberbullying-flash-cards/>

TYPE OF CYBERBULLYING	AN EXAMPLE/SCENARIO
Flaming	Student's example
Harrassment	



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