

Oh the Places We Will Go

Time needed: 15 minutes

Recommended Level: All grades

Categories: Awareness, Cyberbullying, Role playing

Common Core Standard (s): Language

Purpose: Students will experience the audience that one "tweet" may have and will recognize the possibility of cyberbullying in tweeting.

DISCUSSION:

Netiquette must be taught. Netiquette is manners and etiquette in electronic communication of any kind. This activity gives the experience of twitter but allows the entire classroom to see it. Texting, e-mail, and twitter are not private.

ACTIVITY:

Hang a piece of chart paper in the classroom. Label the top to look like the homepage of Twitter. Ask a question of your students. Give students a blank strip of paper and have them write a response to the question.

Have the students place their sentences on the chart paper.

Give students one minute to read their classmates' sentences. After the minute, they have 30 seconds to respond to any one sentence.

Have students place their messages under the message they replied to. Repeat this several more times.

Discuss the following with students:

- Comments shared electronically are not private.
- How is this activity like an internet forum (such as Twitter)?
- None of you put anything on the board that was mean, offensive, etc. Why not? (Because they would get in trouble, because the teacher knows who wrote what, etc.)
- Why is it important to not say anything mean or rude even if you think someone won't find out? (Because online messages leave a trail, can be traced back to the sender, could be a form of cyberbullying, etc.)

FOLLOW-UP:

Have students from other classrooms add to the board to show students how far messages can spread.



Helping Everyone with Anti-Bullying,
Respect & Tolerance