

WICKED **ACTIVE LEARNING**



Anti-Bullying Lesson Plan KS2-4

Developed in partnership with



Lesson objective

Use the story of **Wicked** to:

- Understand different types of bullying
- Explore why people bully
- Discuss what to do if you see bullying at your school



Wicked is...

Take a look at the **Wicked Storyboard** from the additional materials in the online resources **here**.

- **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 seems different to those around her. 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.



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 Anti-Bullying Alliance and its members have an agreed shared definition of bullying based on research from across the world over the last 30 years.

“Bullying is the repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. It can happen face to face or online.”

Explore and expand on this definition by visiting the ABA **website**

The ABA also offer free online CPD training for any school member about the definition of bullying.
Find out more **here**.

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. 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.

- Do you think she is being bullied? Why?
- 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 might not feel so confident in ourselves. We might feel more like Elphaba, we might feel shy or lonely.

Think about a time when you felt great and confident, and a time when you didn't feel so confident, perhaps you were feeling shy or lonely.

It's OK to feel both things and everyone feels them from time to time. But it is important to ask for help if you're feeling like this often. Think about who you can ask for help and who could support you.



Difference: a look at Elphaba

Elphaba seems different. She is green. Sometimes we all feel different, like Elphaba. And we are all different, that's what makes us unique. Sometimes we might feel like we stand out, like Elphaba does. It's important to try and make our school welcoming so people don't feel like they stand out.

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 true for you, you should stay seated.

If you are sitting down when a statement is read out, you should applaud the students who have stood up.



Discussion

- Did you learn anything new about the people in your class?
- 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 and 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?

Look at the lyrics of 'Popular' (Script Extract page 30-31) and listen to the song on YouTube.

How do the lyrics make you feel?

Is popularity really important?

Highlight which words or phrases would make someone feel like they are unpopular?



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 role play



1. Elphaba arrives at Shiz University and is excited about the possibilities.



2. The other students see her for the first time.



3. In a classroom at Shiz university with Dr Dillamond and the other students.

- Look at the production shots above. 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, role play Elphaba's arrival at university if other students chose to be unkind about how she is different. How might they 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? Use the Forum Theatre technique suggested here to work as a group.
- Discuss how as a student, class and whole school you can make sure everyone feels welcome, included and valued? Write these ideas down and display them in your classrooms so you remember how to treat others.

Role play: cyberbullying

- Imagine that Elphaba was in your class and was being bullied online. Role play a situation that 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?



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)

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?



No Bystanders 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**

What have we learned? Discuss and share

In groups, create a presentation about what you have learned.

The following questions might help you:

- Why do people bully others?
- What is the definition of bullying?
- 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?

Further Activities:

If you're finding it difficult to answer any of the above questions, take a look at the Anti-Bullying Alliance's online resources here:

Primary pack
Secondary pack

For more information and advice about bullying visit:

anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk



cybersmile.org

stonewall.org.uk

To speak to someone in confidence, call **Childline: 0800 1111**

childline

ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME

**WORRIED?
YOU CAN TALK TO US**



**Call Childline on 0800 1111
or visit childline.org.uk/kids**

Whatever your worry,
you can talk to us. It's free,
you don't have to tell us
your name, and you can
chat about anything.

childline

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