

## **When can I talk to my child about bullying?**

There may already be situations your teenager has shared with you about friends or kids at school being mean to others. There may also be situations you have observed when you are around teenagers and see how they treat each other. For this activity, briefly write the details about a situation you have seen or heard about. Then write the questions you may want to ask your child about that situation, the advice you may have given—or want to give—to your child, and what you can do as a parent to help. One sample is provided.

**Sample scenario:** Mario and Pete have seen some older boys taking backpacks and hiding them at lunch. The first time they saw it happen, Mario waited until the boys had left and put the backpacks back. But it happens almost daily to the same kids, and Mario and Pete got tired of waiting for the older boys to leave.

**Questions to ask your child:** Do these older boys do other mean things like this? Do they always do these things to the same kids? Do teachers or staff know about it? How would you feel if you were being treated like this?

**Advice for your child (safely intervene and act as a defender):** Talk to a teacher about it and ask them not to share your name. Sit closer to where it happens and ask the older boys why they are hiding the backpacks. Do something nice for the boys being treated badly.

**What can I do as a parent?** Keep checking with Mario and Pete about the situation. Talk to the school if the boys being bullied are very upset about it.

**Scenario:**

**Questions to ask your child:**

**Advice for your child:**

**What can I do as a parent?**