

# COUNSELING CORNER

## MARCH: MEDIA SAFETY



### LIBRARY LESSON:

This month we celebrate White Ribbon Week- otherwise known as media safety week. In conjunction with this, I will be teaching a lesson about media safety to your students in the library. They will learn that using the internet safely means (1) keeping personal information private, (2) only talking with people you know in real life, (3) telling a trusted adult if you see something that makes you uncomfortable, and (4) never arranging a meeting with someone you don't know. 3rd and 5th graders will create a social media post using paper and pencils that demonstrates their knowledge of media safety. 1-2nd graders will play 2 corners. I'll read them a scenario and they have to decide if it's SUPER safe or SUPER unsafe.

### BOTVIN LIFE SKILLS:

4th graders will continue to receive the Botvins Life Skills lessons this month. In the first week of the month, they will learn about decision making. In the third week of the month, I'll teach them about smoking information (e.g., immediate and long term effects of smoking on the body). These lessons are part of an initiative to teach students substance refusal skills.

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### CLASSROOM LESSON:

In the third week of the month, students will learn about taking responsibility. We'll define responsibility as admitting when we've done something wrong and accepting the consequences. K-2nd graders will read the book, "David Gets in Trouble" by David Shannon. We'll play a game to help them identify phrases that represent taking responsibility (e.g., I'm sorry) versus those that don't (e.g., It's not my fault!). 3-5th graders will read the book, "It's not my Fault!" by Julia Cook.

### MEDIA SAFETY AT HOME:

Here are a few simple ideas for teaching media safety at home:

- **Be aware of the apps that your students use.** Some apps allow students to talk with people they don't know online, so make sure you know which ones do and do not have this function.
- **Share your house rules regarding media with your kids.** If you have rules regarding talking to strangers online or viewing pornography, make sure your kids know this.

