



Year 2: Boundaries and Bullying Grades 6 - 8

Preparation: **Review** complete lesson before beginning instruction.

Preview the video, this might take more than one viewing and will support discussion on the main points in this lesson plan.

Materials: Copies of Student Worksheets and Take-Home Activity, Five Body Safety Rules Poster (2).

Activities and Timeline:

Activity #1: Warm-Up Review Activity Optional (5 minutes)

Activity #2: VIRTUS® “Empowering God’s Children” Introductory Video / Discussion (10 minutes)

Activity #3: Student Worksheet #1 “Personal Boundary Behavior / Response Worksheet.” (10 minutes)

Activity #4: Small Discussion Group (10 minutes)

Activity #5: Student Worksheet #2 “Personal Boundaries Circle Worksheet” (10 minutes)

Activity #6: Large group discussion / “Personal Boundaries Circle Worksheet” (10 minutes)

Closing Prayer / Distribute Take Home Activity (5 minutes)

Overview of Lesson Plan:

Principle: Help children respect their bodies by identifying and understanding personal boundaries. Give children information to protect their boundaries if someone crosses their boundaries making them feel uncomfortable, scared or confused.

Catechism: #2319 Every human life, from the moment of conception until death, is sacred because the human person has been willed for its own sake in the image and likeness of the living God.

#2252 Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children in the faith, prayer, and all the virtues. They have the duty to provide as far as possible for the physical and spiritual needs of their children.

Goal: To assist parents / guardians in teaching their children to identify, establish, and protect their personal boundaries. To teach children to respect their boundaries and the boundaries of others. Furthermore, to empower children to protect themselves from any situation that makes them feel uncomfortable, scared or confused.

Objectives:

- Define personal boundary
- Identify and protect their personal boundary
- Recall the Safety Rules for protecting personal boundaries
- Define bullying and determine appropriate responses to bullying.
- Technology Component: Discuss how and why cyber-bullying violates personal boundaries. Recognize that cyber-bullying is harmful and should be reported to a parent/guardian, or other safe adult.
- Communicate what they have learned in the lesson with their parents/guardians.

ACTIVITY #1: Warm-Up Review Activity Optional (5 minutes)

Personal Boundaries and Safety Rules
Word Search

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Word Search

S A Y N O A N D G E T A W A Y
 U W Y Q D M L I R E O S P J P
 P E X O S E I R A D N U O R
 H Q T N Q S N P Q P P N P P O
 N O B U L L Y I N G B V Q U T
 Y D O B Y M S T X N I U D E
 D O A R A Z C W S F H S B T C
 Q H T R Z C Z C J C V N R Q T
 T L U A F Y M R E V E N S T I
 X M O X G O D L O V E S M E N
 T E L L A S A F E A D U L T O
 O K Y R K I D E N T I F Y W W
 R E S P E C T G U G D I G E V
 E E I O O K N W L Q N C J M P
 I N O Y T A W P C I M N I W J

BOUNDARIES
 ITS MY BODY
 PROTECT
 TELL A SAFE ADULT

GOD LOVES ME
 ITS NEVER MY FAULT
 RESPECT

IDENTIFY
 NO BULLYING
 SAY NO AND GET AWAY

ACTIVITY #2: VIRTUS® Introductory Video “Empowering God’s Children” / Discussion (10 minutes)**Black: Teacher Information / Green: Classroom Discussion**

The “Empowering God’s Children” video introduces the topic of personal boundaries and boundary safety. The video defines personal boundaries, explains: why boundaries are important; and teaches the students’ the need to respect their own boundaries and the boundaries of others. The video also empowers the children to know what to do and who to tell if someone makes them feel uncomfortable, scared, or confused.

Teacher: Below are the vocabulary terms from the video. Review with the class the definitions and discuss examples for clarity.

- **Personal Boundaries** - are the rules, or limits that we create to identify reasonable, safe and permissible ways for people to behave towards us, and others. Personal boundaries include physical, emotional, mental and material limits we set for what we will accept from another person in either words or actions. Describe a physical boundary that you have set for yourself.
- **Bullying** – when someone intentionally and repeatedly does or says something that hurts, harms or humiliates you either physically or emotionally, this can happen in person, in a chatroom, a text and online. How does bullying violate personal boundaries?
- **Trusted Adult** – is an adult you feel confident and comfortable approaching about personal problems, uncomfortable questions, and sensitive situations and issues. Who are some of the adults you trust? Why do you trust them?
- **Cyber-bullying** - is using any digital device to send, post, or share negative, harmful, false, or mean content about someone else. This includes sharing personal or private information about someone else causing embarrassment or humiliation. Is cyber-bullying dangerous? Give an example.
- **Safety Rules** – in the video the personal safety rules reminded you to “Say No!” “Get Way!” “Immediately Tell a Parent or Safe Adult!” and remember, “It’s Never Your Fault!” These rules will give you the power to keep yourself safe if you remember to always follow them. How does following the Safety Rules keep you safe?

ACTIVITY #3: Student Worksheet #1 “Personal Boundary Behavior / Response Worksheet.” (10 minutes)

Introduce the worksheet by reminding students that understanding, establishing, and keeping personal boundaries gives them power to be in control of situations that might threaten their safety.

Distribute Student Worksheet #1.

**Student Worksheet #1
“Personal Boundary Behavior / Response Worksheet.”**

Personal boundaries are the rules, or limits that we create to identify reasonable, safe and permissible ways for people to behave towards us, and others. Personal boundaries include physical, emotional, mental and material limits we set for what we will accept from another person in either words or actions.

In the chart below read, the specific “Behavior” listed in the first column. In the second column, write your response to how you would protect your personal boundaries and those of others against that behavior.

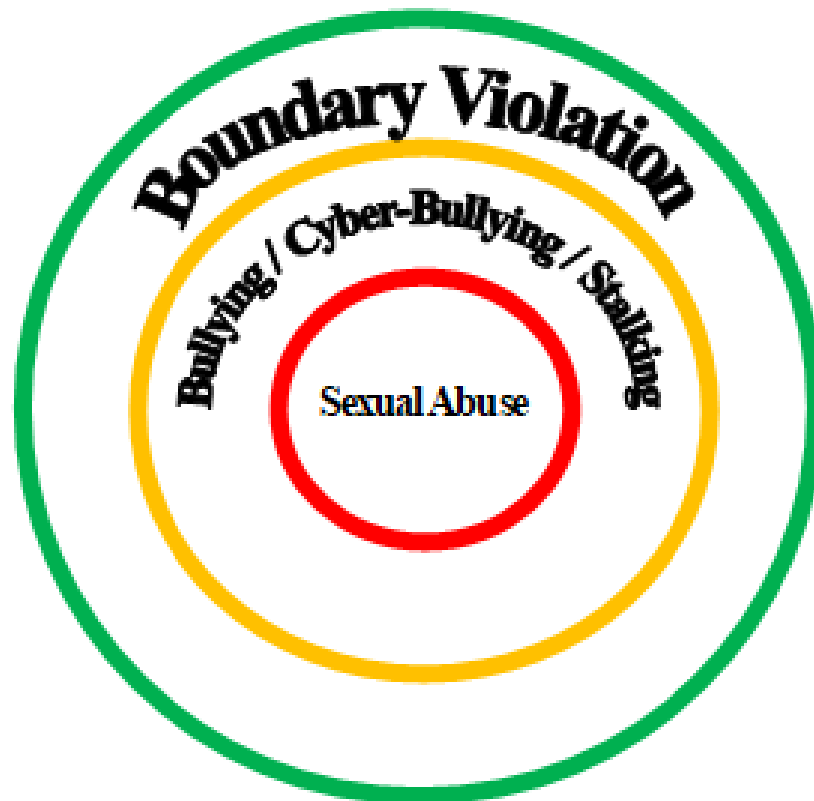
Student Worksheet #1 “Personal Boundary Behavior / Response Worksheet.”	
Personal boundaries are the rules, or limits that we create to identify reasonable, safe and permissible ways for people to behave towards us, and others. Personal boundaries include physical, emotional, mental and material limits we set for what we will accept from another person in either words or actions.	
In the chart below read the specific “Behavior” listed in the first column. In the second column, write your response to how you would protect your personal boundaries and those of others against that behavior.	
BEHAVIOR	How you would respond to protect your personal boundaries or the boundaries of others
1	A classmate continuously gets “in your face” and it makes you very uncomfortable.
2	You are at the local Mall with your friends when a stranger starts following you around and trying to talk to you.
3	You see an older students bullying a younger student and making him/her cry. You want to say something but if you do, the bully might turn on you.
4	A friend wants you to play a video game you know your parents don't approve of. When you try to say no, your friend tells you “Don't be a baby!”
5	You want to stay longer at your friend's house to finish watching a movie but if you do, you will get home after your curfew.
6	A classmate you do not know too well keeps asking you for your cell phone number.
7	You suspect that a friend is being abused, it is only a suspicion, but you are worried for your friend.
8	You are doing research for a homework assignment online and suddenly at a website pops up that makes you feel creepy.
9	One of your teachers always puts their arm around your shoulder and pat you on the back, you wish they would stop.
10	You are at a school dance. A boy you kind of like ask you to go out into the parking lot with him and you do. But then he begins to make suggestive “moves” towards you and you don't like it!

ACTIVITY #4: Small Group Discussions (10 minutes)

Teacher: Once all students have completed the “**Personal Boundary Behavior / Response Worksheet,**” divide the class into small discussion groups of no less than 3 nor more than 5 students per group. Students should now share their responses with the group. Once all the group members have shared, ask the students to discuss the responses. The teacher should circulate among the groups to monitor and motivate participation.

Activity #5: Student Worksheet #2 “Personal Boundaries Circle Worksheet” (10 minutes)

Directions: Place the number of the behavior scenarios from your “**Personal Boundary Behavior / Response Worksheet,**” in the colored ring of the circle that corresponds with that behavior. Example, for the first scenario put #1 in the green “Boundary Violation” ring, because someone getting in your face is a boundary violation.



ACTIVITY #6: Large Group Discussion / Personal Boundaries Circle Worksheet (10 minutes)

Teacher: Ask students volunteers to share where they placed the different numbered scenarios in the circle. Then ask the class:

- Raise your hand if you also placed number ____ in the “green” circle. Why?
- Who placed number ____ in a different circle? Why ?

Continue the discussion until students give responses for each of the scenarios.

Closing Prayer / Take Home Activity

Teacher: Distribute a copy of the Take Home Parent Resource to each student. Ask the students to read the article with their parent/guardian and have a family discussion on the contents.

Talking with Your Teen about Safe and Healthy Personal Boundaries

Establishing safe and healthy personal boundaries is important for your teen’s life. Knowing what to do when the “unexpected” happens can save your teens from difficult situations or hurtful experiences.

This article will help you as a parent / guardian to facilitate discussion with your teen about personal boundaries, which will empower them to protect themselves from abuse, harassment, and manipulation. The following are suggested topics for discuss with your teen:



Family Rules:

- curfews, dating, staying in contact with you, and any changes in their plans.
- where they are going, who they are going with and when they will return.
- why it is important to have their cell phone (on and charged) when they are away from home.
- always having a concrete “plan” in case of an emergency situation such as a flat tire on the road at night, running out of gas, etc.

Safe and Healthy Personal Boundaries:

- the importance of trusting his/her own feelings instincts when it comes to unhealthy peer pressure.
- that he or she always has the right to say “NO” if they feel threaten or uncomfortable in any way.
- that possessiveness in a relationship has nothing to do with love or respect. Verbal, emotional or physical abuse should never be tolerated, when it comes to sex, “NO” ALWAYS MEANS “NO.”
- that it is never okay to break the law —anyone who suggests you do so is not a true friend.
 - this applies to drinking alcohol, and taking any type of illegal or recreational drugs, etc.
 - this also applies to what teens may think of as a “prank” such as: inappropriate or explicit social media posts, accepting dangerous dares in person or online, “dine and dash,” shoplifting, or using graffiti to vandalize property are all crimes!

Communicating with your teen helps to build a trusting relationship and lets him/her know they can talk to you about anything and that you will always be there for them!

End the lesson with a prayer

“God wants us to be safe, healthy and happy. God has given us the power to be watchful, to protect ourselves and to help others who might need our help. He has endowed us with “good-sense.” So now let us ask Him, to help us to always use the gifts He has given us gives for our good and the good of others. Let us pray together the prayer of St. Francis of Assisi.

**"Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is discord, union;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope
where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy.**

Amen.

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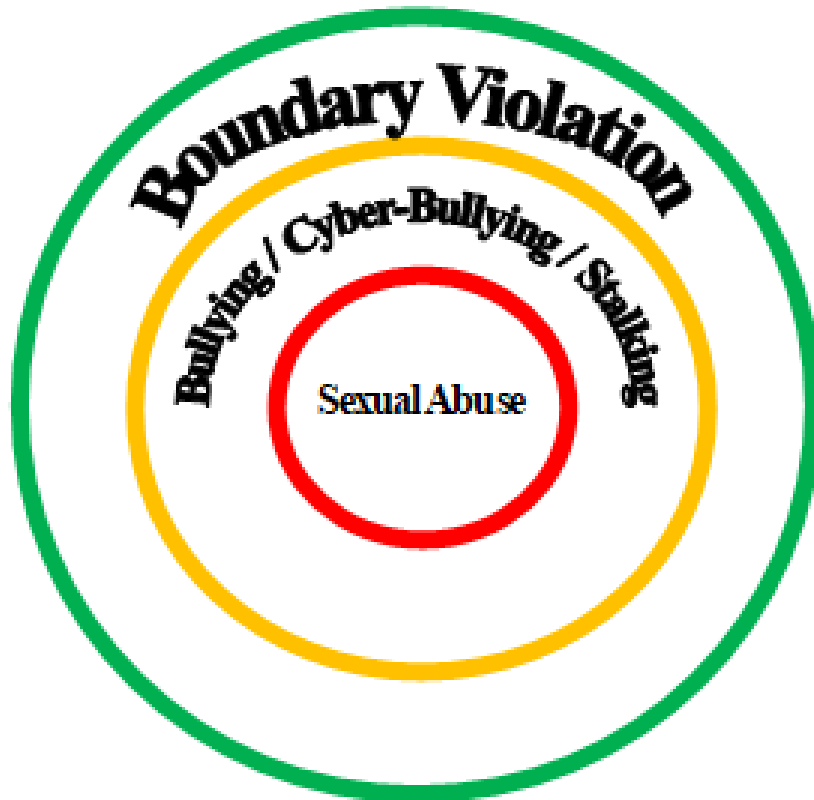
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