



At ThinkCERCA, we believe that literacy is power—and that teaching students to become Upstanders starts with understanding, empathy, and informed dialogue.

On the first day of October and throughout the month, students, schools, and communities across the world go **BLUE** to stand united against bullying.

In honor of **National Bullying Prevention Month**, we've curated a set of **differentiated close reading and argumentative writing lessons** featuring authentic informational and literary texts about bullying. **These lessons support students in:**

- Understanding the impact of bullying
- Analyzing diverse perspectives
- Crafting strong evidence-based arguments
- Building empathy and becoming Upstanders in their communities

Did you know? Students who engage in **7-10 close reading and writing mini-units per year show 1.5+ years of literacy growth.**

Assign a Writing Lesson Today!

- Words Can Hurt (Grade 3)
- Are Cliques Good or Bad (Grade 4)
- Just Call Me Frank (Grade 5)
- Bullying: What We Can Do (Grade 6)
- The Real Problem (Grade 7)
- Words Can Hurt You (Grade 8)
- How Many People Does it Take to Stop One Bully? (Grade 9)
- Role of Laws and Policies in Addressing Bullying (Grade 10)
- When a Bullied Kid Grows Up (Grade 11)
- Why Do We Reward Bullies (Grade 12)

Help Students Become an Upstander with a Close Reading Lesson

- An Experiment in Discrimination (Grades 3-5)
- Calling Someone Fat Names Can Make Them Eat More, Researchers Say (Grades 6-8)
- "Am I Pretty or Ugly" Videos a Symptom of Toxic Media Culture (Grades 6-8)
- We Have to Prevent School Bullying (Grades 9-10)

Explore Differentiated Text Sets for Upstander Voices

Resolving Conflicts: How can conflicts impact those who are involved?



Claim



Evidence



Reasoning



Counterargument



Audience

