

## **Bullies to Buddies Game**

### **● Overview of the game**

This is an educational board game that deals with the complex cycle of bullying behavior in a way where students can learn non-violent skills to stop bullying. Bullying can be discouraged by all members of the school community (e.g. a target, bystanders, adults at school, and bullies can learn to achieve their social goals without bullying). In the game, the “target” only becomes the “victim” when the target and the bystanders fail to stop the bullying attempt.

### **● How to play the game**

Teachers read the following introduction to the class.

- Players are advisors for game characters (victim, bully, and bystander).
- There are four important ways to prevent bullying in the school.
  - Target skills: learn the skills to thwart a bully’s attempts and avoid becoming a victim.
  - Bystander skills: learn how to prevent bullying and stop the target from becoming a victim.
  - Bully skills (Bully-to-Buddies skills): develop skills to achieve social goals by a desirable means other than bullying and to refrain from bullying.
  - Adult support: ask an adult to intervene if students cannot handle the bullying by themselves.

Players draw a card<sup>1</sup> that matches the color of the square on the game board<sup>2</sup> they landed on. Players then answer the question on the card to collect points that allow them to purchase footprints that represent elimination of bullying. Other players decide whether the answer is good or inappropriate (the teacher makes the decision if the players cannot decide). The player who earned the most footprints wins. The game comes with questions that can be used in post-game discussions

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1) There are multi-colored Skills Cards. Each Skill Card describes a scene of bullying and asks what kind of advice should be given to the person (bully / target / bystander) specified by a color.

2) There are colored squares and red bullying starbursts which mean occurrence of bullying. Colors of the cards and squares on the game board have the same meaning; green means bully, tan means target, yellow means bystander, and blue means adult help.

### **Reference**

Franklin Learning Systems (2001). Bullies to Buddies Facilitator Manuals Franklin Learning Systems. Westport: CT.

### **Product Information**

Grade level: 2-5

Publisher: Franklin Learning Systems

Publication year: 2001

Price: \$49.95

URL: <http://www.franklinlearningsystems.com/Bullies-To-Buddies.html>