



Building Bully-Free Schools/Communities Program Script

ACT ONE

Fade Up:

Zazi is pouring over a stack of papers on the table, shaking her head.

Enter Dieter screen right humming

Zazi: I've had it

Dieter: Had what?

Zazi: Nobody understands what a big problem bullying is.

Dieter: They don't?

Zazi: No they don't. Ever since I was bullied by Penelope I have been watching what goes on at the playground. It's terrible!

Dieter: I am sure it's not that bad.

Zazi: I read that some scientists saw that bullying took place every seven minutes on the playground they were watching. Do you realize that means between recess and lunch we would have 8.58 incidents of bullying every day!

Dieter: Wow!

Zazi: That's 42.9 a week

Dieter: Amazing!

Zazi: 184.47 each month

Dieter: Really amazing!

Zazi: and 1,544 POINT FOUR every year! And that not counting after-school!

Dieter: Of course not.

Zazi: (self-satisfied) Just a matter of simple calculation!

Dieter: I am not so sure, Zazi

Zazi: I had my doubts too, so I decided to do my own *primary research*. Look, here are my notes.

Dieter comes over to Zazi and reads over her shoulder from a small notebook on table

Dieter: 11:10 Billy grabs a cookie out of a second grader's hand and eats it. Not very nice, is it?

Zazi: No!

Dieter: 11:14 Cookie kid wants to play dodge ball and the older boys won't let him. That kid's having a bad day.

Zazi: And look at this. 11:25, Sonya and Marcia make fun of what Latisha's wearing and at 11:28 a fight almost breaks out in the dodge ball game. It's an epidemic!

Dieter: Okay, okay. But what's this last one? 11:32 Marco comes over and tells me I have really nice handwriting.

Zazi: *Looks down and pushes Dieter away.* That's personal.

Dieter: So maybe you are right. What can we do about it? Changing people is a tricky thing to do

Zazi: I know it is. That is why we need a whole school campaign against bullying.

Dieter: How the heck are we going to do that?

Zazi: I know it is a big idea, but it is our school too!

Dieter: You're right, Zazi. It is our school. So, how do we start?

Zazi: Mrs. Lessing says we will do a writing assignment on bullying and then do a couple of class activities around it too.

Dieter: Hmm. Maybe you and I could work together on that writing assignment.

Zazi: Could work. But you know, we have to think bigger. We have to figure out how to get the whole school on board.

Dieter: Okay

Zazi; I was thinking we should do a *huge* poster.... or maybe even a complete mural on the playground wall. Something in the big Mexican style. You know, Diego Rivera. Something that would really catch people's attention and show how bad bullying is.

Dieter: That *is* a big idea. What do you have in mind?

Zazi: I have been working on some designs and here is my favorite.

Zazi pushed notebook away to reveal sheet face up on table

Dieter comes over and looks down. Leans in. Backs away. Looks in again.

Dieter: Is that a saber toothed Tiger with a puppy in its mouth?

Zazi: I am really proud of those fangs. Grrrrrr. And what do you think about the slogan?

Dieter: *(in flat quoting voice)* Hey you, bully. Stop that right now. *(pause)* A little general maybe?

Zazi: I thought it should be *all-purpose*. But maybe it should be in caps cause it should be more like, "HEY -- YOU -- BULLY -- STOP THAT, RIGHT NOW. I have been going around saying that to people all week!

Dieter: I know you have. You got people talking.

Zazi: That's good.

Dieter: Not so good. People are talking about you, not about bullying.

Zazi: What! See what I mean. They just don't get it

Dieter: Some kids are even saying that you're becoming a bully.

Zazi: Unbelievable! How can people be so ignorant!

Dieter: Umm. Did you rip up Danny's homework yesterday?

Zazi: Of course not! I ripped up a nasty note I heard he was passing around.

Dieter: Zazi, that was no note. That was his homework. The note thing was just a rumor.

Zazi: *(Head collapses in anguish)* Uh my gosh! Oh my gosh! ...I am a bully. Spreading rumors. Tearing up people's homework. I'm terrible, horrible *Looks down at poster and then snaps her head stage right. Switching to poster voice:* "HEY -- YOU -- BULLY -- STOP THAT -- RIGHT NOW. *Turning around stage left and back in her own voice.* I'm sorry. I'M SORRY. I will never be a bully again!

Dieter: (laughing) Zazi, calm down. You are not a bully. You made a mistake that's all.

Zazi: How can things go so wrong! I really wanted this to work out.

Dieter: It can still work out.

Zazi: Yeah! How!

Dieter: I think I know someone who can help us figure it all out.

Zazi: *Looking over to Dieter in recognition.* What? Huh. Okay.

Dieter: Come on, Zazi. Let's go see big Mike!

Fade out



ACT TWO

Fade up

Michael screen right reading. Dieter and Zazi enter screen left

Dieter: Hey Mike

Zazi: Hi, Michael

Mike: My two favorite people. What bring you guys here today?

Dieter: Mike, Zazi and I are trying to start an anti-bullying campaign at school.

Mike: Wow, that's a wonderful idea. So what have you got so far?

Dieter: Well... um. Um. (Looks at Zazi confused). Well, we have this poster. It's got a saber toothed tiger and..

Mike: *Confused.* What!?

Zazi: Forget about it Dieter. Mike. It started out great. I got really excited. Did a bunch of research. Began work on a plan for our school....and (drops her head)

Mike; And?

Zazi: And I really messed it up

Dieter: *Rolling head back.* She's didn't *really* mess it up. Just *kinda* messed it up. Penny, nickel like.

Zazi: As I sometimes do, I got a little *strident* with people.

Mike: Hmm. It's *good* to be enthusiastic.

Dieter: Not *that* enthusiastic. (*Cowboy voice*) While tracking 'em down on the bully trail, she hogtied a cowpoke's homework (*horse clopping sounds*)

Zazi: Dieter!

Mike: (*Laughing*) Anyway, so we want to figure out how to stop this bullying.

Dieter and Zazi: We sure do!

Mike: And how are we going to do that?

Zazi: It's got to be a whole school thing. Everything I have read says that to really stop bullying you have to involve the whole school.

Mike: You are right on point there, Zazi. So what do we want to accomplish? What would you say our goals are?

Zazi: Easy Mike.

Mike: Okay, tell me.

Zazi: The first thing we need to do is make sure everyone knows what bullying is, cause sometimes even smart people don't get it.

Dieter: Like you?

Zazi: Yeah, Dieter. Like me.

Mike: So we need to educate people about what bullying is.

Dieter: Scooby Do!

Mike: Do you know there are three parts to bullying?

Zazi: Yep: the bully, the victim and the bystander.

Dieter: I knew that!

Mike: Very good, guys. And how do we handle all this?

Zazi: We want to stop the bully, protect the victim

Dieter: And get those bystanders to stop standing by.

Mike: Great. We need to intervene when bullying happens.

Zazi: You've got to tell the bully to stop.

Dieter: Safely. No kicking in the shin.

Zazi: And tell an adult as soon as you can.
Mike: How about protecting the victims?
Zazi: You could get a bunch of kids to go stand around them.
Dieter: And if you are a big guy like me, you can distract them.
Zazi: I used the Na'vi language from Avatar to distract Billy.
Dieter: You what?
Zazi: When I saw him picking on a little kid, I went right up to him and said *Kaete payo, faheyo ahkin*. He didn't know what to do.
Mike: That's a great idea, Zazi. (*laughing*) Use humor. What does it mean, by the way?
Zazi: "My nose is full of your alien smell!"
Dieter: (*Laughing*) That is so nerdy! Funny though. (*Stops laughing*)
Mike: And what about the bystanders.
Dieter: I know this one! Everything we've been talking about. Get the *by-standers* to be the *up-standers*.
Mike: Stand up to the bullies. Stand up for the victims. Very good Dieter! That research of Zazi's probably says that bystanders are often the key to stopping bullying.
Zazi: Yep. Cause there are a whole lot more of them than anyone else.
Dieter: You know, I have been thinking about the kids who get bullied. Like Davey's little brother. I figure we need to include them more and be nicer to them. I've been eating lunch with him all week. That kid's funny. I almost choked up my bean burrito yesterday.
Mike: Dieter, I am really proud of you.
Zazi: And I've been doing some thinking too, about why I was in everyone's face last week. I got so worked up, I think I lost respect for everybody who didn't see things exactly the way I did.
Mike: Wow, Zazi, it's *you* who is teaching *me* today. And you too Dieter. Respect, inclusion, caring. Can't say much more than that.
Dieter: It's nothing. Anytime you need help, Mike, just give me a call. I'm like those hot dogs at 7-11. Always ready to go.
Mike: Thanks, Dieter. I do know that.
Zazi: So we know *what* we want to do.
Dieter: Our goals!
Zazi: Now we have to figure out *how* to do it.
Dieter: Zazi, let's you and me go talk to Mrs. Lessing.
Mike: That is a great idea.
Zazi: About posters, about pledges, assemblies, murals andbuttons!
Dieter: Buttons!?
Zazi: Yeah, I was thinking that if everyone at school had to choose between wearing a button that said either *Bully* or *Upstander*, I bet everyone would pick *Upstander*.
Mike: And would start acting that way! Wow, Zazi, that's a terrific idea!
Dieter: You know Zazi, when you started all this I thought you were just tripping on another of your crazy big ideas. But I think this is going to work!
Zazi: Like we said Dieter, it's our....

Both together:School too.

Mike: (Laughing) My two favorite people!

Zazi: See you later, Mike, we gotta go!

Dieter: We got a lot of work to do!

Mike: See you guys! Good luck!

Dieter and Zazi turn and exit screen left

Zazi: Let's stop by the playground, first. I want to apologize to Danny for *hogtying* his homework.

Dieter: Good idea. Now, how did that go again? *Kaete payo, faheyo ahkin.*

Zazi: No. *Kaete payo, faheyo ahkin*

Dieter: I think this is going to come in real handy.

Fade Down

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