



STAYING SAFE

If you are being called names or bullied, remember the four ways to stay **SAFE**:

Say what you feel

Ask for help

Find a friend

Exit the area

What does **SAFE** mean?

1. Say what you feel

Telling a person who is teasing you or calling you names the way that their words or actions make you feel can be a great way to let that person know that you don't like what they are doing. You can start your sentence by saying something like "When you say/do _____ to me, it makes me feel _____." Being angry or sad when someone is bullying you is ok, and it is ok to let that person (or someone else) know what you are going through.

2. Ask for help

Sometimes you can handle name-calling and bullying yourself (possibly by using one of the other SAFE strategies). But sometimes you need to ask for help, and that's ok. If a person who is calling you names is making you feel scared that you might get hurt, you can talk to a teacher or other adult about what is going on. Asking for help is not about tattling – it's about taking care of yourself and staying safe.

3. Find a friend

Some people who call names or bully others like to pick times and places when no one else is around because it makes them feel safer. That's why sometimes you can end a bullying situation just by finding another person or people to be around or spend time with. Hanging out with people who make you feel good about yourself is important, and the person calling names might think twice before picking on you when you're with your friends.

4. Exit the area

While it might feel like you aren't doing anything at all, sometimes walking away from someone who is picking on you is the best way to end things. Some people who tease want you to get upset, and while it's perfectly normal to feel hurt, angry or sad if you are being called names, sticking around the person hurting you may just make things worse. So, if you can, find a way to exit the area where the teasing is happening.