

Bubba Bixby is a bully - he cheats, steals, cuts in line, and terrorizes little kids. Nolan thinks it would take a superhero to make Bubba behave. But what no one knows yet is that there's a little superhero lurking within Nolan's nerdy exterior, just waiting for the chance to bust out. - *Random House*



BIG IDEAS To Reinforce



Standing up to Bullying, Teasing, Heroes, Creative Problem Solving

Build Background

Ask the class what special powers they would want and how they would use them. Show the book cover and explain that this book is about a student named Nolan who uses a secret identity to create a cyberspace super hero who uses his secret powers to go against the school's number one bully, Bubba.

Key Vocabulary

assertive	pg 2
putrid	pg 6
data	pg 60
cyberspace	pg 69
censoring	pg 100
spacey	pg 105

Student-Friendly Learning Target



I can determine actions that should be taken against bullying.
I can compare characters' decisions and use them as an example of what I would do if in a similar situation.


Discussion Starters



1. Ian's dad says that boys aren't born bad, they grow into being bad. Do you agree or disagree with this comment? Explain your answer.
2. Freddy begins giving Ian a hard time and calls him a Nerd (pg 38). Another student, Trinity, stands up to Freddy and tells him to leave Ian alone. Which student are you most like and why: Ian, the one who is being called a name, or Trinity who sticks up for her classmate? Alternatively, share which of these students would you most like to be like (or not) and explain your answer.
3. Ian begins to change himself as his plan progresses. For example, when his first attempt with the hidden camera fails to capture the images he wants (pg 40), he doesn't give up. Find an example in chapter 9 or chapter 13 that proves Ian has changed (pg 82, 112-113, etc).

Writing Prompt



Fill-in Descriptions This book begins with a description of Bubba Bixby, the school bully. Use the printable to prompt students to fill in the blanks to create a positive description of themselves.  **PRINTABLE**



Activities



Acronyms As a class, create an acronym that will be used to show that bullying is not acceptable. An example could be to create a sign that says BAN Bullying! The letters could stand for B-be, A-against N-negative choices. Challenge students to work in small groups to create more acronyms that they could use to identify and stand up to bullying.

NED Awards Ian was shocked by how mean Mr. Bixby was to Bubba. He then thought about his own dad and considered himself very lucky that his dad didn't treat him like Mr. Bixby treated Bubba. Who is someone that makes you feel loved and respected? Create a NED award for this person explaining how they use the qualities of NED with you.

More Resources

-  Accelerated Reading Quiz: 75663
-  Teacher's Guide available at RandomHouseKids.com

Name: _____ Date: _____

This book begins with a description of Bubba Bixby, the school bully. If a book began with a description of you, what would be written? Begin the same way the author did and fill in the blanks to create your description. Be sure to highlight your abilities (maybe you are a great artist, musician, student, friend, etc.).



Me

_____ was born _____
and _____,
_____ and _____.

That's what my _____
thinks anyway. My _____
says a boy/girl isn't born _____

-he/she grows into being _____.

I don't know who's right. What I do know is that _____
_____. And _____
_____.

Teachers are always telling _____ to _____
_____-they have no idea what they're saying!
_____ can _____.