Circle Time on Just Kidding

* Review the circle guidelines with students….

1. **Respect the talking piece. Everyone listens and everyone has a turn so be mindful on the amount of time of your response.**
2. **Be respectful with our words and actions**
3. **Have fun but don’t try and be funny, not a time for funny.**
4. **Keep it 100… Keep it REAL**
5. **Honor Confidentiality…What is said in circle stays in circle, but no guarantee**

* Have students give you a thumbs up or thumbs down on willingness to participate in group. If thumbs down… which one do you not agree with? How can we make it work for you?
* Redirect students that are not ready to an alternate assignment.
* If you don’t want to share say no thank you and pass the piece to the next person.
* **Thank the students for sitting and participating**. Reason that you have chosen to circle up is so that everyone gets an opportunity to learn more about one another. Explain that it is very important as their counselor/teacher that you build a relationship with each and every one of them to better help and meet their needs. Challenge them to participate in the circle.
* **Review the three ways to actively participate in circle**

1. Be an active listener
2. Raise your hand for a clarifying question, NOT A COMMENT and limit the questions to 3
3. Thumbs up and Thumbs down

* **Introduction:** Ask students if they have ever had their feelings hurt or been talked to disrespectfully only to hear one of the above expressions in response to their disapproval. “I was just kidding”, “Can’t you take a joke?” “I didn’t mean anything by it”

Playing and joking around is fun, until you or someone else gets hurt. Today we are going to talk about the words “Just Kidding”.

* Introduce the talking piece**/**Explain why you chose it?

Joke book (its funny), Happy face (funny), game piece or deck of cards (you play games)

* Circle Open: On an index card have students write what makes joking/playing/kidding turn bad and put them in the center of the circle.

Ex: Yo’ momma jokes, physical contact, talk about appearance….

* Read the words placed in the center of the circle.
* Discussion Round

1.Which word stood out to you the most?

2. What is the difference between kidding and harmful teasing?

**Point out**….Kidding-is two sided, light natured, laughter, no one angry, everyone moves on; Teasing-more one sided, feelings are hurt, anger, grudges are made

3. How would you let your peer(s) know when their kidding/joking/playing crossed the line?

4. What can you do when you have crossed the line with your joking/teasing and hurt someone else?

Closing:

When you chose to joke with someone there are a few things to consider……

What is the joking about? (appearance, race, ability), your relationship with that person (friends, strangers, just met), personality of person (do they like to joke, get offended easily, made it clear they didn’t like joking in past), and their life experiences (death of family member, live with grandparents, disability).

Watch Minion’s video- <https://youtu.be/n1ePtRdQRT0>

How does the clip relate to today’s topic of “Just Kidding/Playing”

Sometimes playing goes too far and people get hurt…..