



GRADES 6–8 FAMILY CONVERSATIONS

SOCIAL AWARENESS IN DIGITAL LIFE



Talk About How Your Child Can Understand and Respond to Digital Drama

Your child is learning about emotional conflicts online (also called **digital drama**). Use these questions to talk with them about digital drama and strategies for de-escalating conflicts online.

Ask these three questions:

1. *I hear you were talking in class about digital drama. Do you see a lot of that online?*
2. *Why do you think these kinds of conflicts happen online?*
 - Listen for (or suggest):
 - *People feel more free to say things they wouldn't say face-to-face.*
 - *It's easy to misinterpret what someone says online when you can't see facial reactions or hear tone of voice.*
 - *People can be anonymous online, making it easier for them to say mean things.*
 - *People can feel more pressured to respond where others can see it.*
3. *Did you talk about ways to de-escalate the drama when you see it? What were some ideas?*
 - Listen for (or suggest):
 - *Respond with a positive comment or action.*
 - *Ignore the post.*
 - *Talk (offline) with the person involved to try to deescalate the situation.*

Learn more about how to be kind and courageous online at [commonsense.org/cyberbullying-tips-for-families!](https://commonsense.org/cyberbullying-tips-for-families)

Family handout for grade 6 lesson *Digital Drama Unplugged*, or 6–8 classroom activity *Dealing with Digital Drama*

