



Supporting the Social and Emotional Development of Our Children

January 9, 2018 PTA Presentation



Growing a Grown-up Brain

Scientists have long thought that the human brain was formed in early childhood. But by scanning children's brains with an MRI year after year, they discovered that the brain undergoes radical changes in adolescence. Excess gray matter is pruned out, making brain connections more specialized and efficient. The parts of the brain that control physical movement, vision, and the senses mature first, while the regions in the front that control higher thinking don't finish the pruning process until the early 20s.

Gray matter density

Gray matter becomes less dense as the brain matures.



Gray matter: Nerve cell bodies and fibers that make up the bulk of the brain's computing power.

Parietal lobe: Spatial perception

Occipital lobe: Vision

Temporal lobe: Memory, hearing, language

Frontal lobe: Planning, emotional control, problem solving

Source: "Dynamic mapping of human cortical development during childhood through early adulthood," Nitin Gogtay et al., *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, May 25, 2004; California Institute of Technology

Being Proactive:

- Second Step: Three weeks dedicated to bullying prevention for each grade level
 - 6th grade: Talking assertively to stand up for self, recognizing bullying and how to respond, and bystanders
 - 7th grade: Recognizing bullying, cyber bullying, and sexual harassment
 - 8th grade: Bullying within friendships, stereotyping that leads to bullying, and bullying behavior in dating relationships

Bullying

When one or more people repeatedly harm, harass, intimidate, or exclude others. Bullying is unfair and one sided.

If an Incident occurs...

- Reporting
- Investigation
- Partnerships



I am an Upstander

Fill out this anonymous form to describe a bullying incident. All reports of bullying will be taken seriously and may result in interviews of students and parents until issues are resolved. Investigations by law enforcement officials and/or internet vendors may also be involved.

* Required

Time of the incident *

Choose ▼

Location of Incident *

Choose ▼

Who was involved in the incident? *

Your answer

What happened? *

Your answer

How did you respond? *

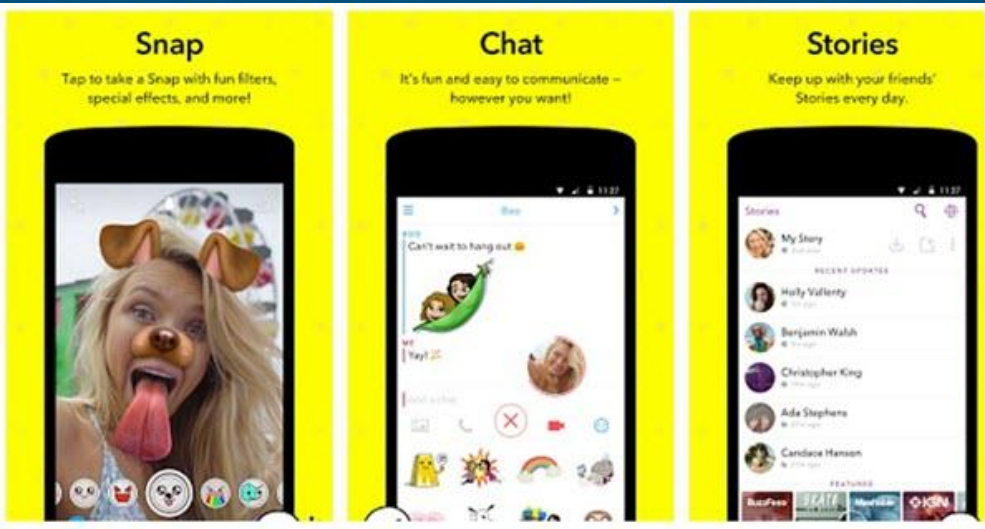
Your answer

Optional: Provide your name if you are comfortable

Your answer

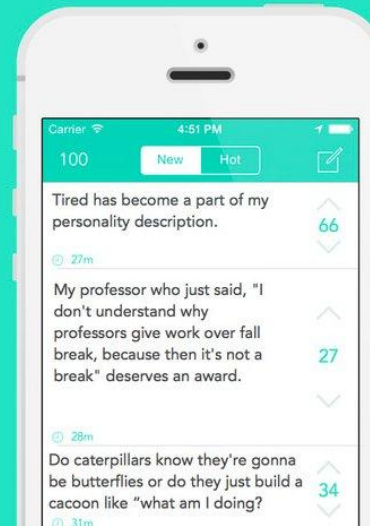
Social Media

- Current Examples: SnapChat, Sarahah
- How we respond to inappropriate use of social media
- Electronic Harassment Law



Get a live feed of what's going on around you.

Share your thoughts, keep your privacy.



Role of the School Resource Officer (SRO)

- Role at OOJH
- School vs. Skokie Police Department jurisdiction



Parent Resources

- [Netsmartz.org](https://www.netsmartz.org)
- [Commonsensemedia.org](https://www.common-sense-media.org)
- [Connectsafely.org/a-parents-guide-to-snapchat/](https://connectsafely.org/a-parents-guide-to-snapchat/)

