

## In the Loop with Mrs. Baur.....

It's time to catch up again with what your students and I are working on together.



In 3K and 4K we continue to talk about friendships and kindness. We read the book: *The Monster Who Lost His Mean*, by Tiffany Strelitz Haber. Everyone knows that the M in "monster" stands for MEAN. But what happens when a monster can't be mean any more? Is he still a monster at all? One young monster's attempts to live up to his name go hilariously awry as he discovers—with a little help from new friends—that it's not what you're called but who you are that counts. We also made a Kindness Monster stick puppets as a reminder to choose kind behaviors.



In 5K through 3rd grade we began our problem solving unit. The goal of this unit is for students to be able to understand and know the size of their problems so they can respond appropriately.

Small Problems	Medium Problem	Big
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• kids can solve these on their own</li><li>• no assistance from adults or peers</li><li>• usually annoying and inconvenient</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• require more time or thought</li><li>• May require help from a friend or extra support</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• require the help of a trusted adult</li><li>• If ignored, they could get worse</li><li>• Usually dangerous and scary</li></ul>



In 4th and 5th grade we continue our work on friendships. We focused this week on defining healthy friendship qualities along with friendship boundaries.

### HEALTHY FRIENDSHIP QUALITIES

- Loyal and Trustworthy
- Being Yourself
- Support and Encouragement
- Being Respectful

### FRIENDSHIP BOUNDARIES: separate respectful and fun actions from disrespectful and annoying actions

- Joking: Fun vs Mean
- Playful vs Hurtful Play
- Togetherness vs Exclusion
- Ideas and Encouragement vs Control and Bossy
- Positive vs Negative Chit Chat



6th through 8th grade we continued our conversation about bullying. This week's emphasis was how to respond to a bully. As a victim, being assertive and using a comeback line are helpful. We also discussed the difference between a bystander (simply "stand by" while something happens) and an upstander ("stands up" for the person being bullied, mistreated, or excluded) and the importance of being an upstander.

#### DO:

- Be Assertive- STOP
- Use vague statements
- Ask questions/use humor
- Find safe spaces
- Reach out for help
- Walk Away

#### DO NOT:

- Physically fight back
- Keep it to yourself
- Avoid or skip school/activities
- Be afraid to report or tell