



## BULLYFREE BUS

Consider this information to keep your Bus Bully Free!

# Caring

**CARING** is a kind feeling toward someone or something. It means being supportive and responsive to the needs of others.

Caring is a kind feeling people have toward someone or something and want the best for them. For most adults, the act of caring comes more naturally because we do not always see ourselves as the center of our world, and we understand the need for a community to work together for the good of all its citizens. Children, on the other hand, are innately more selfish and only learn to understand their role in the world, and the need to care for others in it, as they mature and become more experienced and independent beings. Bullies may not have reached an appropriate stage of emotional and experiential maturity to show caring for others; instead, many direct outbursts towards those they perceive as different or unwilling to pay sufficient (good or bad) attention to them. To understand the stages of emotional growth that can help you respond effectively to the needs of, and care about, the more difficult students on your bus, you may wish to have a guidance counselor, police liaison, or other professional skilled in working with antisocial behaviors in children, role-play effective responses to bullying situations you have encountered previously on your bus. Practicing effective responses to emotional situations can diffuse inappropriate behaviors and model caring to all student riders. Have a great week and enjoy your **Bully Free Bus!**