

The Canadian Reader

Current Canadian events and issues for students in Grades 3 and up



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LesPlan

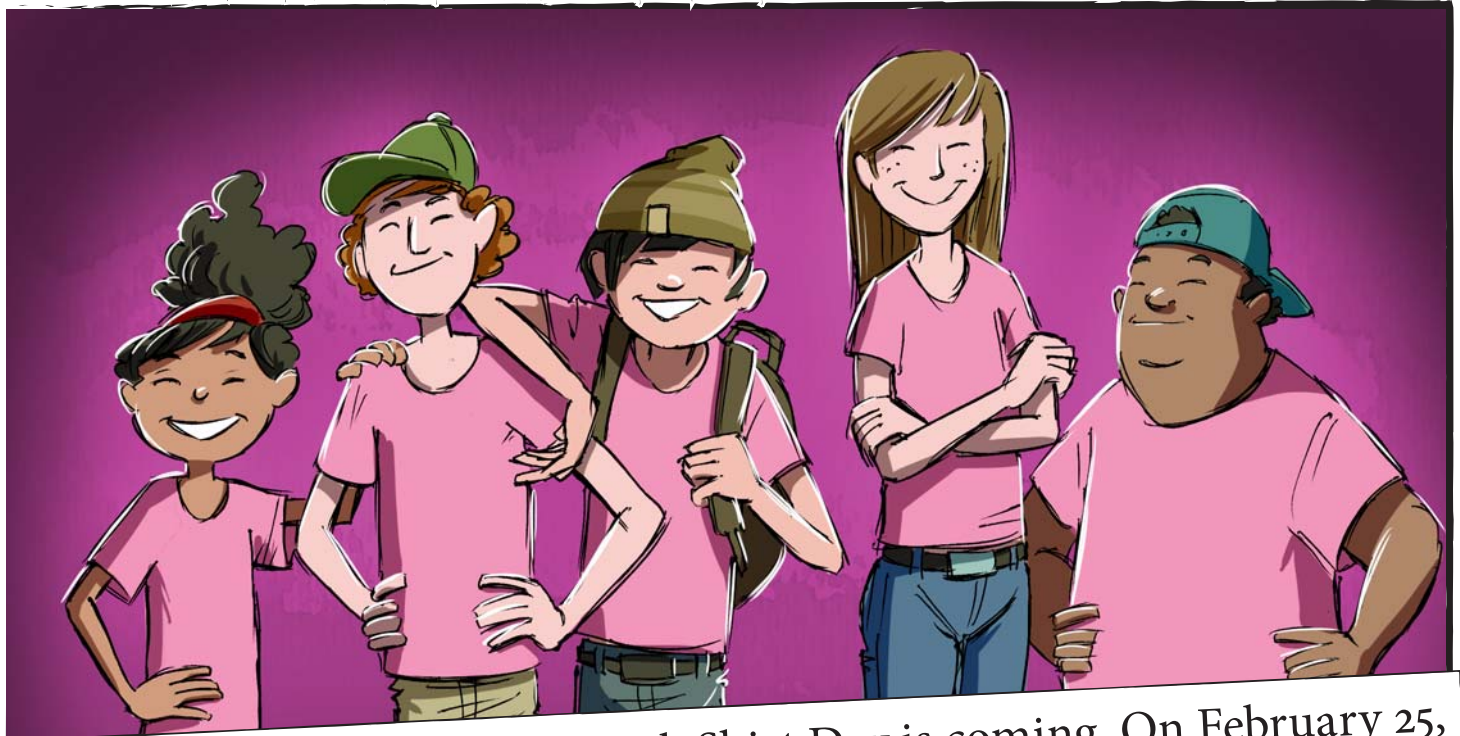
Teachers serving teachers since 1990

Supplementary News

Please circulate to:

_____	_____	_____
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Pink Shirt Protest



Got a pink shirt? Pull it out. Pink Shirt Day is coming. On February 25, people around the world will wear pink to stamp out bullying.

Pink? Why pink?

Two Nova Scotia teens came up with the idea. In 2007, a Grade Nine boy at their school wore a pink polo on the first day of classes. Bullies teased him. They called him names. They even threatened to beat him up. All because he wore a pink shirt.

Travis Price and David Shepherd heard about what happened. Enough was enough, thought the two Grade 12 students. The boys planned a surprise. They bought 50 pink shirts after school. Then they emailed their friends to ask for their help.

“A sea of pink”

The next day, before school, the two teens gave the shirts out to the friends who had agreed to wear them. But they were the ones

who were surprised. The word had spread. Hundreds of students came dressed in pink that day! So when the bullied student entered the school, he saw a sea of pink.

“It looked like a big weight was lifted off his shoulders,” said David Shepherd. “He went from looking depressed to as happy as can be.”

The good news

The pink shirt protest put an end to the bullying. It also caught media attention, and inspired other schools. Last year, 6.4 million people participated in Pink Shirt Day.

“It was totally overwhelming for us,” said Travis Price. “We’re just two local boys and we were getting calls from Alaska and e-mails. It’s just phenomenal the support that we’ve gotten from across the globe.”

“I want people to see that they can do the exact same thing. Whether they are bullied. Whether they are the popular kid. Whatever their situation is, they're all capable of doing exactly what we did.”

The bad news

Pink Shirt Day has raised awareness, but bullying still happens. One in three Canadian teens admits that someone's picked on them recently. Half of Canadian parents say their children have been victims.

Research shows that bullying can have long-lasting effects. Victims can feel sick, anxious, lonely and sad. They may find it hard to

concentrate and get good marks. Some even drop out of school, or harm themselves.

Even the bullies suffer. Their grades may go down. They're more likely to use drugs and alcohol. They start believing that aggressive behaviour is okay – and it's not!

Make a difference

So, if you see a bully at work, don't just stand there. Speak up. Support the victim. It works. And at the end of the month, pull on a pink shirt. Help put an end to bullying.

Did you know...?
In some places, Pink Day takes place in April and is called Day of Pink.



As you see it, what is the importance of this story?

THE FOUR KINDS OF BULLYING:

PHYSICAL

- PUNCHING, SHOVING, TRIPPING OR KICKING SOMEONE
- FORCING A CLASSMATE INTO A LOCKER



VERBAL

- CALLING SOMEONE A REJECT, A LOSER OR A MORON
- THREATENING TO BEAT A KID UP AFTER SCHOOL

SOCIAL BULLYING

- GIVING ONE STUDENT THE COLD SHOULDER
- SPREADING RUMOURS
- PUTTING A NASTY NOTE IN A CLASSMATE'S DESK



CYBER-BULLYING

- MAKING MEAN POSTS ON SOMEONE'S FACEBOOK PAGE
- CIRCULATING SOMEONE'S PRIVATE OR EMBARRASSING EMAILS, TEXTS AND PHOTOS

Bullies try to hurt people physically or emotionally. They hold more power than their victims. They might be bigger, older or more popular. Sometimes they just outnumber the victim. Bullies don't go after someone once. They torment them over and over.

Pink Shirt Protest

Lesson Plan

Before Reading:

- Arrange students into small groups. Using an overhead transparency, show students each of the statements below, one at a time. Read the statement aloud, then allow a few minutes for groups to discuss and reach agreement about whether it is *true* or *false*. Invite groups to hold up a paper labeled 'true' or 'false' to show their response. Ask some groups to explain their choices.
 1. True or False? *Bullying behavior is mean behavior that happens again and again.* (T)
 2. True or False? *All bullying behavior is physical – like kicking, punching, spitting or hitting.* (F)
 3. True or False? *It's not your fault if you are being bullied.* (T)
 4. True or False? *If you are bullied you might feel very mixed up and confused, afraid one moment and angry the next.* (T)
 5. True or False? *Only physical bullying is dangerous.* (F)

During Reading:

- As they read the article, encourage students to look for evidence to support each of the true/false statements about bullying.

After Reading:

- Revisit each of the statements. Discuss the answers in light of the information students learned from reading about bullying behavior, its consequences, and ways to stop it.
- Distribute a copy of **Take a Stand on Bullying** (p. 6) to each group or pair of students. Have students brainstorm things they could do and say to stop bullying and to help students who are being bullied. Discuss ideas as a class.
- Invite students to create a **personal mission statement** outlining what they will do or say to prevent bullying in the classroom or on the playground.
- Criteria for Assessment:** An effective mission statement *is succinct (to-the-point), clearly explained, and describes a specific, supportive action the person will do or words the person will say to prevent bullying.*

Extension:

- View the National Film Board of Canada's animated movie **Bully Dance** found at http://www.nfb.ca/film/bully_dance. Then, as a class, deconstruct the video by engaging students in a discussion to answer the following questions:
 - *What types of bullying occurred in the movie?*
 - *How did the kid who was bullied react to the bullying?*
 - *What were the behaviours of the kids who bullied?*
 - *How did the kids who saw the bullying respond?*
 - *What were the results of the bullying?*

Pink Shirt Protest

Lesson Plan

- Alternatively, students could conduct additional research on bullying online or in the library to learn more about kids who are bullied, kids who bully others, kids who see bullying, and what they can do to help.
- Then, have students create their own **pink T-shirt** (cut out of pink construction paper) with a slogan and/or design showing how they will contribute to a school without bullying. Hang completed shirts on a clothesline in the classroom or hallway.
- Criteria for Assessment:** A persuasive t-shirt *clearly shows what someone can say or do to prevent bullying, the actions/words are doable and will make a positive difference, and the message is simply and succinctly presented (it is to the point, stands out, and easily seen or read).*

Internet Connections:

- To find out more about Pink Shirt Day, visit <http://www.pinkshirtday.ca/>.
- To learn more about bullying go to:
 - <http://www.stopbullying.gov/kids/facts/index.html>
 - <http://www.kidshelpphone.ca/Teens/InfoBooth/Bullying.aspx>
 - <http://www.erasebullying.ca>
- To watch short videos on bullying, view <http://www.stopbullying.gov/kids/webisodes/>

Name: _____ Date: _____

Pink Shirt Protest

Take a Stand on Bullying

Things we can do and say to stop someone who is bullying

Things we can do and say to help someone who is bullied

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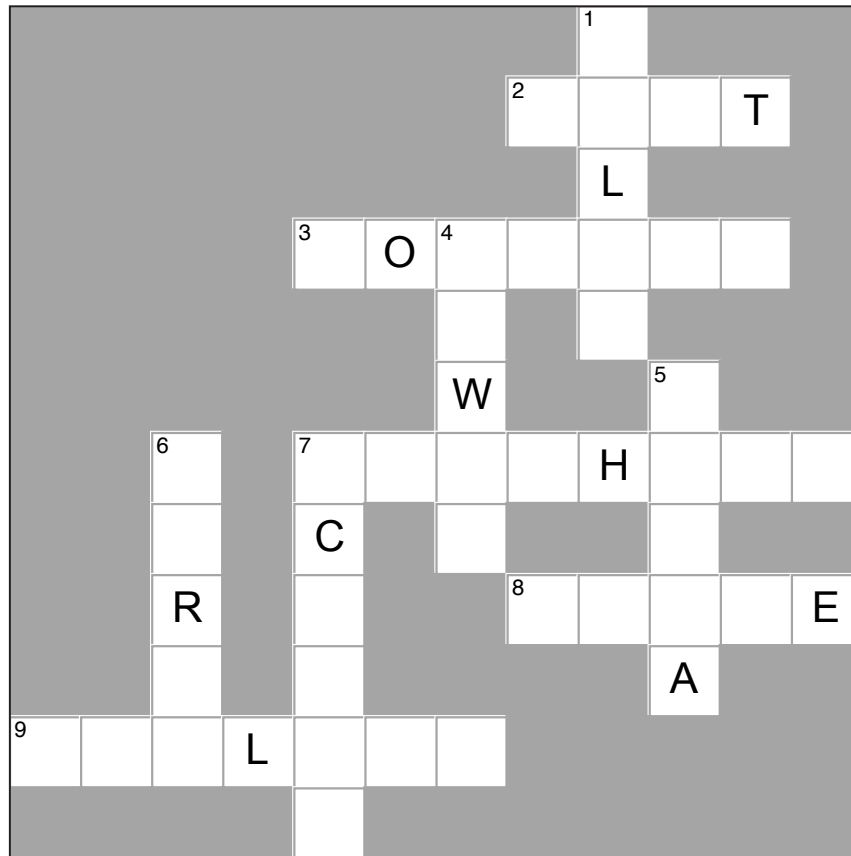
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Pink Shirt Protest

Crossword



Across

- 2. bullies try to _____ people
- 3. a person or thing that many people like
- 7. David _____ started anti-bullying campaign
- 8. Travis _____ started anti-bullying campaign
- 9. last year 6.4 _____ people participated in Pink Shirt Day

Down

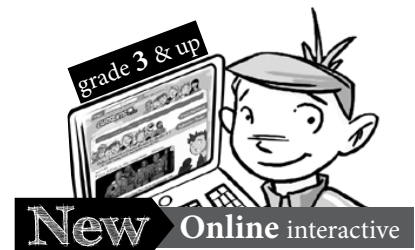
- 1. someone who torments people over and over
- 4. bullies hold more _____ than their victims
- 5. mass communication such as T.V., radio and newspapers
- 6. Day of Pink occurs in this month in some parts of Canada
- 7. anti-bullying idea started in Nova _____

Current Events, Clearly Explained



Students want to know what's happening in their world – but the news can be difficult and time-consuming to teach.

WE HAVE THE SOLUTION. (Three, actually.)



The Canadian Reader *Nos Nouvelles*

- ✓ Print/pdf resource
- ✓ Clearly written, leveled Canadian current events articles
- ✓ Literacy-based lesson plans
- ✓ Engaging, original illustrations
- ✓ Comics
- ✓ Map assignments

Product details: 32 pages, black and white. Available in English and in French for grades 3 and up.

What in the World? *Le Monde en Marche*

- ✓ Print/pdf resource
- ✓ National and international news stories
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- ✓ Background information
- ✓ Varied assignments that build content-area knowledge and enhance critical thinking
- ✓ Maps and illustrations

Product details: 32 pages, black and white. Available in English and in French, and in two reading levels, for grades 5 and up.

Currents4Kids.com *Infos-Jeunes.com*

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- ✓ Weekly news stories
- ✓ Autograded quizzes
- ✓ Comment page for students to respond to the stories
- ✓ Links to relevant articles, resources, maps, photos and videos
- ✓ Suggested activities and a Word Work assignment

One subscription allows all teachers and students access to this site from any Internet-connected device at any time. Available in English and in French, for grades 3 and up.

1-888-240-2212 www.lesplan.com

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<i>Français</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> 90 \$	<input type="checkbox"/> 180 \$	

<i>What in the World? / Le Monde en Marche</i>			
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<i>What in the World? / Le Monde en Marche</i>			
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<i>English</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$90	<input type="checkbox"/> \$180	
<i>Français</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> 90 \$	<input type="checkbox"/> 180 \$	

SUB TOTAL A

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<i>Français</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> 90 \$	<input type="checkbox"/> 180 \$	

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+ SUB TOTAL A

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