

# Introducing the *Steps to Respect* Program

*One day, a classmate called Nathan a wimp for not playing ball at recess. Since then, other classmates have stopped talking to him. He finds mean notes in his desk, he's often tripped in the hall, and people laugh at him when he walks by. Suddenly, Nathan feels that everyone picks on him.*

Unfortunately, many children like Nathan face bullying every day. Many children believe that adults can't or won't help.

Research shows that bullying problems can be greatly reduced, but only when the school staff works with students to tackle the problem. Our school is implementing *Steps to Respect: A Bullying Prevention Program* to help create a positive, safe, and bullying-free learning environment for all students.

As part of the *Steps to Respect* program, students in your child's class will learn new skills to help them build friendships and deal with bullying. Following are some of the topics covered in the program.

- Making friends.
- Joining group activities.
- Managing conflicts.
- Recognizing, refusing, and reporting bullying.

Throughout the program, you will receive several updates about what your child is learning. Please watch for these interesting and informative handouts. Try the suggested ideas to help your child practice *Steps to Respect* skills. And join us in creating and maintaining a safe, caring, respectful school!