

Episode Guide: Episode 1

“Enter Badromeda”

ABOUT
THE ISSUE

CYBERBULLYING

Cyberbullying encompasses a wide range of online behaviors including, but not limited to: posting hurtful comments, spreading rumors, sending unsolicited images, having personal information shared without consent, online impersonation, and spreading of unkind photos/videos, etc.

Studies done in the UK¹ and the United States² have found that cyberbullying is an increasingly prevalent problem for children, teens, and young adults online. In these studies, roughly 20-30% of those surveyed reported being cyberbullied in their lifetime, and about 10% admitted to cyberbullying others. Thirty-seven percent of the girls surveyed reported being cyberbullied, compared to 30% of the boys in the survey.

EPISODE SUMMARY

After falling into a transporter tube, Nettie and Webster find themselves lost in the realm of Badromeda - one of the six layers of “the cloud.” They encounter multiple cyberbullies, but also meet a helpful shopkeeper who helps them begin their journey to find Dr. Vera, the scientist.

LESSONS LEARNED

When dealing with cyberbullying and negativity, don't respond. There are helpful people in unlikely places.

Activities for one-on-one and small group settings.

DISCUSSION STARTERS

- What were the Badromedans doing that upset Nettie and Webster?
- What advice would you give Nettie/Webster about dealing with mean pictures online?
- How is Harold, the shopkeeper, different from others in Badromeda?
- Have you ever been upset with someone online? How did you deal with it?
- If you saw someone being cyberbullied online, what could you do about it?
 - » Do you know how to report cyberbullying to websites/apps?
 - » Who could you talk to about a problem you are having? Who would you talk to at home? Who would you talk to at school? How about outside of school?

PUT IT INTO ACTION

For role play scenarios, you may choose to have kids write/act out a skit to demonstrate each situation.

- Imagine you see one of your friends cyberbullying someone from your class. What would you do?
- In this episode, Nettie and Webster see mean pictures of themselves being sent around. Imagine that you are Nettie or Webster. How do you feel? What should you do?
- Imagine a friend coming to you and telling you that they are being cyberbullied. What would you say to him/her? Help your friend figure out a plan to avoid and report bullying.

1 *The Annual Bullying Survey 2017(Rep.)*. (2017, July). Retrieved February, 2019, from Ditch the Label website: <https://www.ditchthelabel.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/The-Annual-Bullying-Survey-2017-1.pdf>

2 Hinduja, S., & Patchin, J. W. (2015, October 21). Our latest research on cyberbullying among school students. Retrieved February 1, 2019, from <https://cyberbullying.org/2015-data>