



BEHAVIORAL WORD STUDY

GULLIBILITY

This word study provides an opportunity for discussing the dynamics of GULLIBILITY and how careful kids must be to avoid it. Dictionaries explain GULLIBILITY as a failure to recognize that someone is attempting to deceive, trick, or cheat us. Because of their immaturity, kids are even more easily deceived than adults. For most of us, including kids, GULLIBILITY occurs while in the midst of stress or acting too carelessly.

Please explain each category listed below to kids and brainstorm factors worth adding to the blank lines. As you discuss each section, consider sharing ways you and others have been exposed to GULLIBILITY.

CAUSES

- Carelessness
- Foolishness
- Inexperience
- Ignore warnings
- _____
- _____
- Avoid rules
- Trust too much
- Quickly accept
- Convincible lies
- _____
- _____

PRECAUTIONS

- Attention to details
- Learn precautions
- Recognize exploits
- Know luring tricks
- _____
- _____
- Understand dangers
- Use security tools
- Question credibility
- Others' warnings
- _____
- _____

LURING TRICKS

- Exciting gifts/money
- Threats
- Distractions
- Fulfill your wishes
- _____
- _____
- Peer pressure
- Lies/blame others
- Kindness
- Exaggerations
- _____
- _____

DEVIOS EXPLOITS

- Stealing
- Drugs/alcohol
- Sexual misconduct
- Slavery/kidnapping
- _____
- _____
- Harming physically
- Criminal behavior
- Lies against rivals
- Pretending value
- _____
- _____

INVESTIGATIVE ACTIONS

- Learn of exploits
- Take precautions
- Report to authorities
- Report to adults
- _____
- _____
- Question credibility
- Think carefully
- Consider what wisest
- Ask for help
- _____
- _____

DAMAGING EFFECTS

- Consequences
- Embarrassment
- Social problems
- Physical harm
- _____
- _____
- Emotional problems
- Self/others hurt
- Financial harm
- Grief
- _____
- _____