



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 | ☐ Avoid rules |
| ☐ Foolishness | ☐ Trust too much |
| ☐ Inexperience | ☐ Quickly accept |
| ☐ Ignore warnings | ☐ Convincible lies |
| ☐ _____ | ☐ _____ |
| ☐ _____ | ☐ _____ |

PRECAUTIONS

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

LURING TRICKS

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

DEVIOUS EXPLOITS

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

INVESTIGATIVE ACTIONS

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

DAMAGING EFFECTS

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