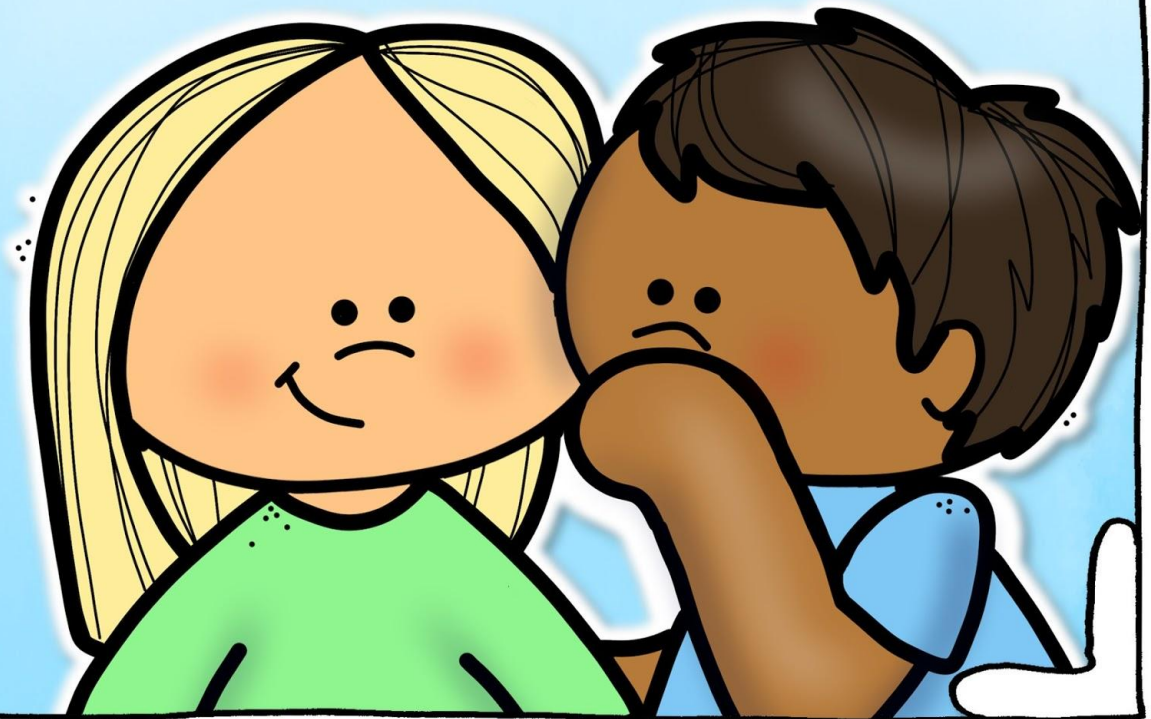


# GOSSIP AND RUMORS



# Gossip

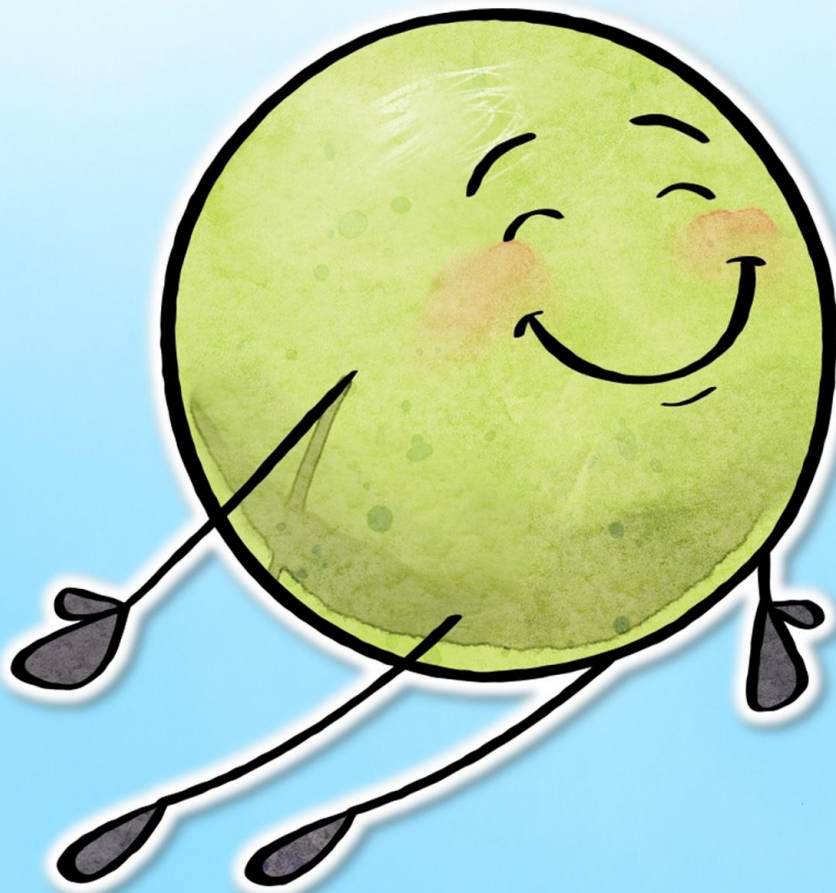
Define what you think it

means... Write on your

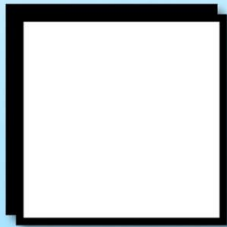
work sheet paper and then

lets share.

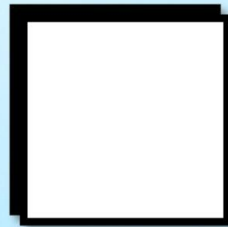
Let's just jump right in! Answer the next six questions about your experiences with **GOSSIP** and **RUMORS**.



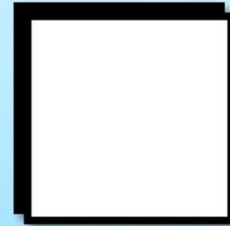
I've heard someone talking about someone else behind their back, in person or on the phone or through messages.



**YES**



**NOT  
SURE**



**NO**

*Drag and drop the check mark to show your answer.*

Someone has said things about me behind my back before.

**YES**

**NOT  
SURE**

**NO**



*Drag and drop the check mark to show your answer.*

Someone has said things about me that weren't true.

**YES**

**NOT  
SURE**

**NO**



*Drag and drop the check mark to show your answer.*

I have talked or texted about someone else behind their back.

**YES**

**NOT  
SURE**

**NO**



*Drag and drop the check mark to show your answer.*

Someone has gotten into my  
personal business before.

**YES**

**NOT  
SURE**

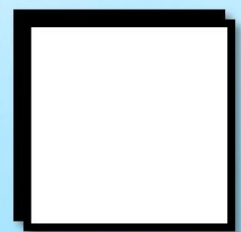
**NO**



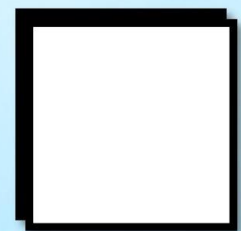
*Drag and drop the check mark to show your answer.*



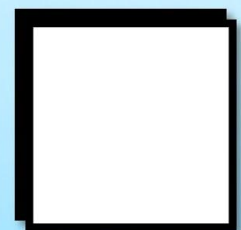
I have heard or read people telling stories or sharing information that I don't think were true.



**YES**



**NOT  
SURE**



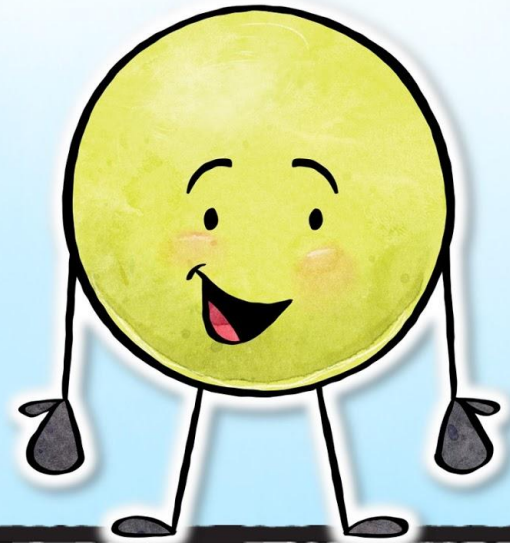
**NO**

*Drag and drop the check mark to show your answer.*

# WHAT IS GOSSIP?

Gossip is anytime one or more people is talking about someone else when they are not there.

It might be true, it might not be true.



## **EXAMPLE**

Marley texted Mason she heard Donovan is failing math.

# WHAT ARE RUMORS?

## EXAMPLE

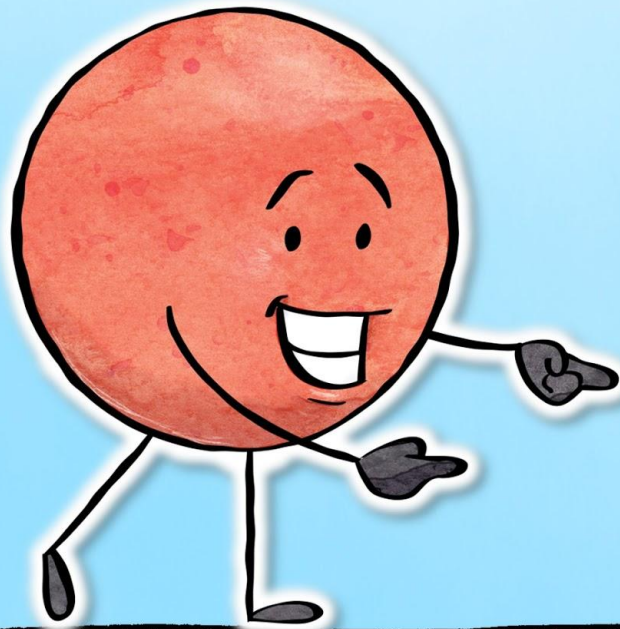
Tyson told Mya the city library caught on fire., even though he doesn't know for sure.



Rumors are information or stories that people share or repeat without knowing whether or not they are true.

It's easy to get pulled into gossip and rumors, but it's important not to. Gossip and rumors hurt people.

SO WHAT DO YOU DO?

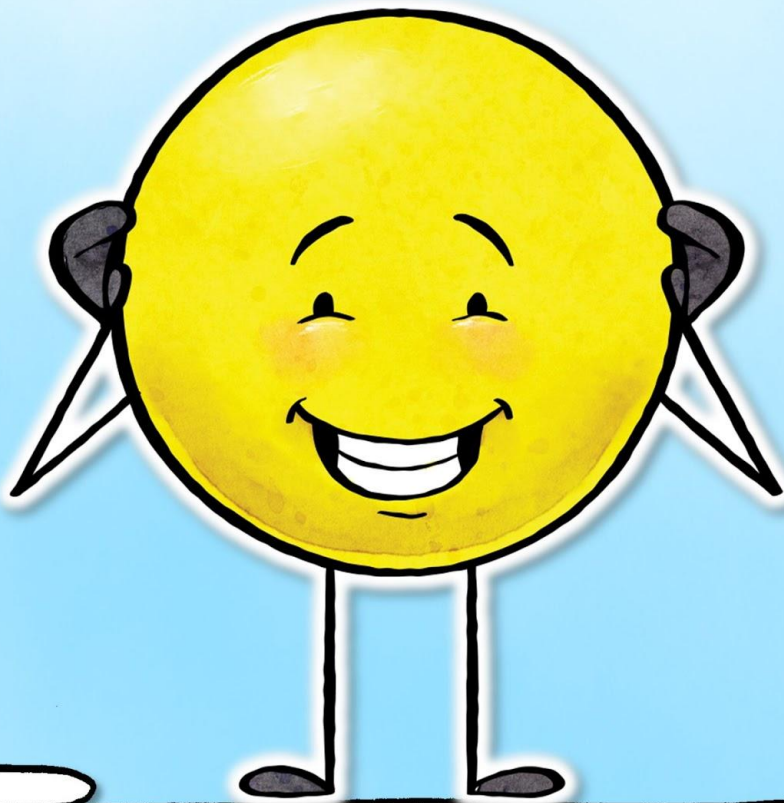


Follow 2  
simple rules!

# RULE #1



Did you see it with your own eyes  
or hear it with your own ears?

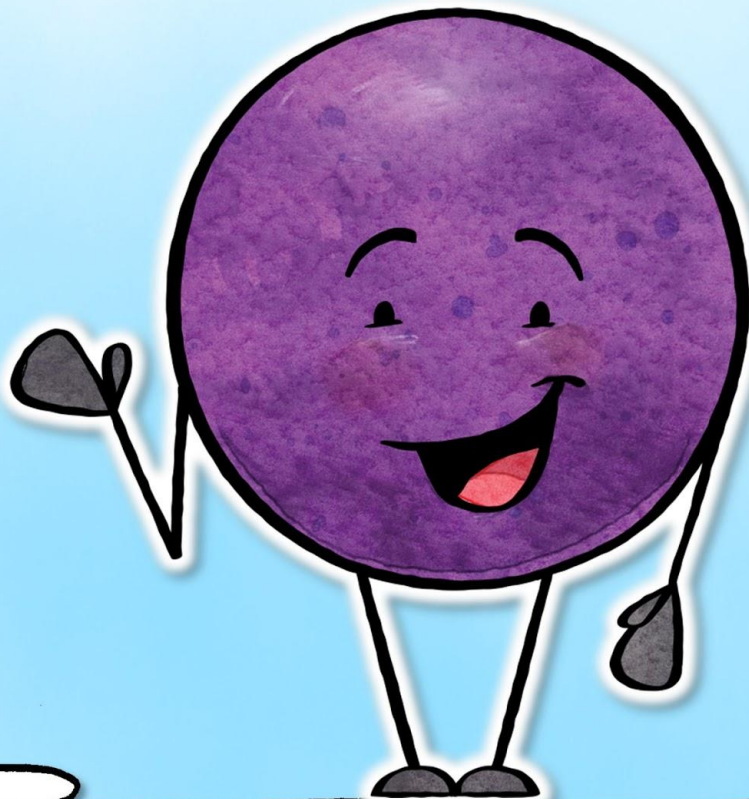


**If the answer is  
NO, don't say it  
or repeat it!**

# RULE #2



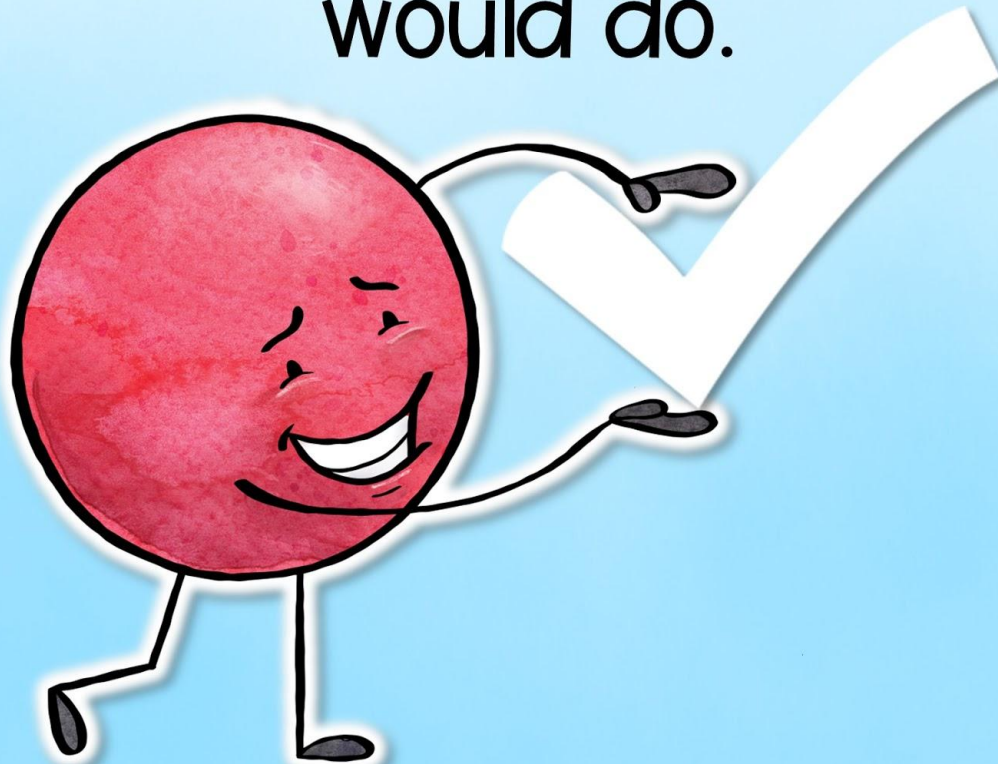
Is it your business? Is it about you?  
Is it your information to share?



**If the answer is  
NO, don't say it  
or repeat it!**

# LET'S PRACTICE

Read the situations. Drag and drop the check mark to show what you would do.



You overhear someone saying that a teacher at school looks pregnant.

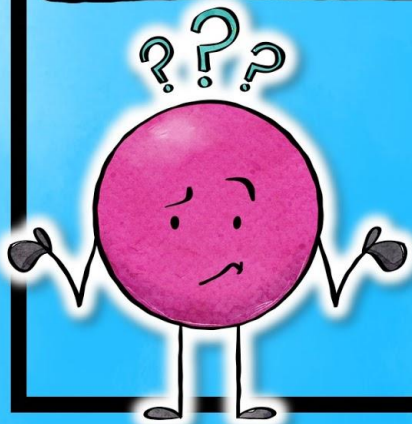
WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

Tell the other kids in your class.

Tell the teacher congrats.

Tell the person it's not anyone's business.

Stay out of it.





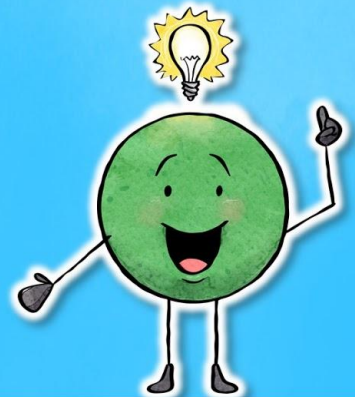
# The answer is...

Tell the person it's not anyone's business.

OR

Stay out of it.

You don't know for sure whether or not the teacher is pregnant, so it is just a rumor. AND, it's not your information to share anyways!



Two kids in your class really don't like each other and they argue all the time.

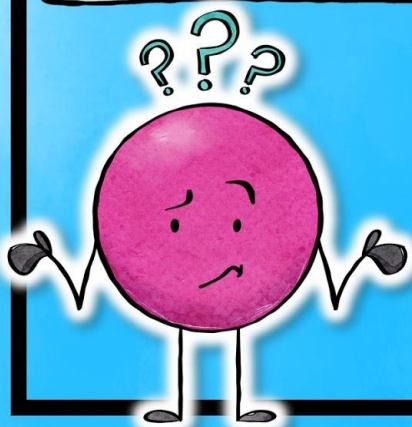
WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

Tell the teacher.

Tell other kids that they are going to fight.

Stay out of it.

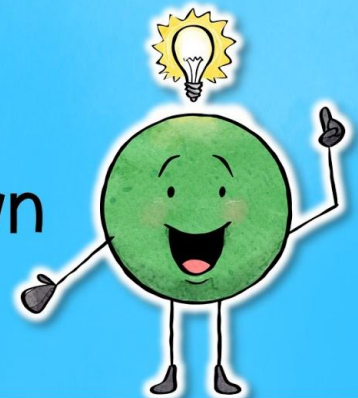
Try to help them get along.



# The answer is...

Stay out  
of it.

This isn't any of your business and you don't need to be involved. Instead, focus on your own relationships and friendships.



Your friend told you about a crush they have.

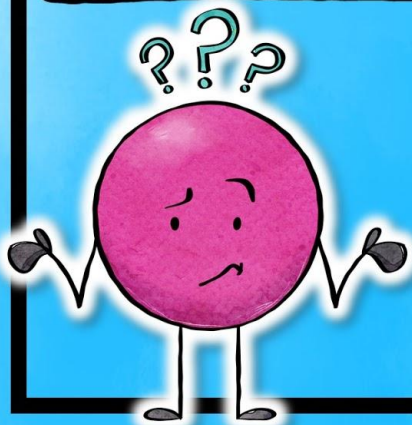
WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

Tell your other friend about the crush and tell them to keep it secret.

Tell the other kids in your neighborhood.

Tell the person they have a crush on.

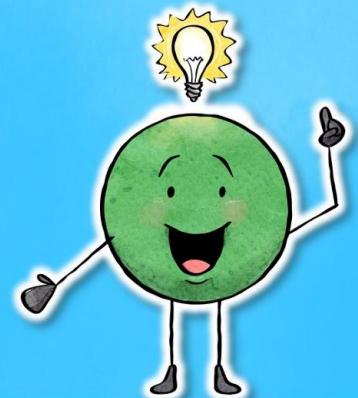
Keep it to yourself.



# The answer is...

Keep it to  
yourself.

This your friend's personal information. It is not your information to share with ANYONE. Keeping it to yourself is being a good friend.



You heard someone telling their friend that their cousin is in jail.

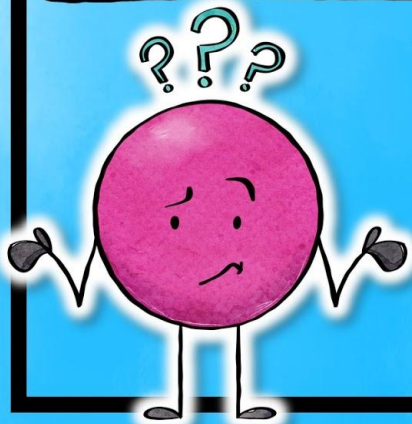
WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

Tell the other kids in class.

Go ask them about it.

Forget you ever heard it.

Try to be a little nicer to that person in case they are sad about it.



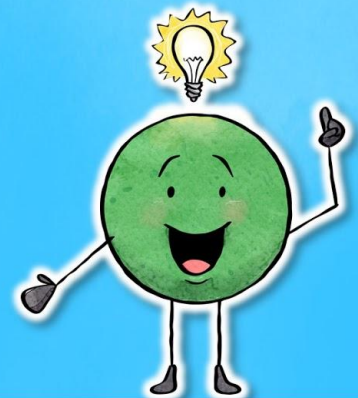
# The answer is...

Forget  
you ever  
heard it.

OR

Try to be a little  
nicer to that  
person in case  
they are sad  
about it.

They weren't telling you AND it's not about you, this is definitely not your information to share. It doesn't hurt to be extra nice to anyone, though!



The person who sits next to you in class just got their spelling test back and you see they failed it.

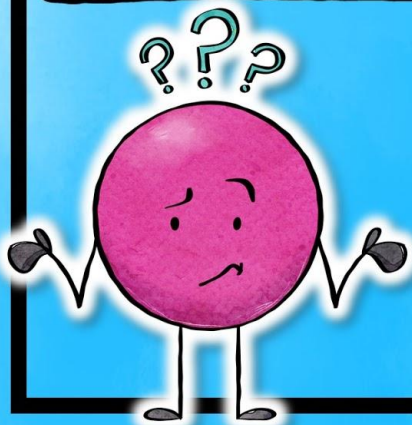
WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

Tell some other kids they failed.

Tell them they might do better next time.

Pretend like you didn't see it.

Tell just your best friend.

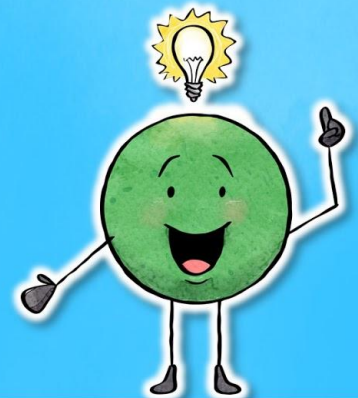




# The answer is...

Pretend like  
you didn't  
see it.

Someone's grades and learning are their  
personal information. It is not your  
information to talk about.



Your friend told you about two people at your school that have crushes on each other.

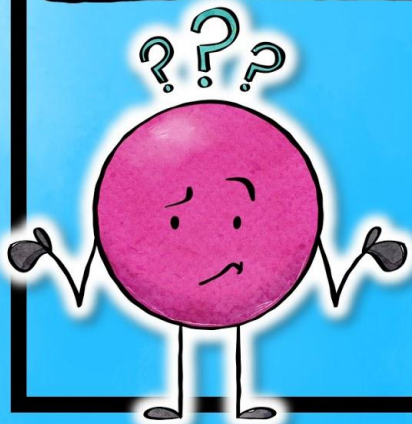
WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

Tell everyone they are boyfriend and girlfriend.

Send a group text to ask them about it.

Say "ok" and change the subject.

Tell your friend you don't like to talk about other people.



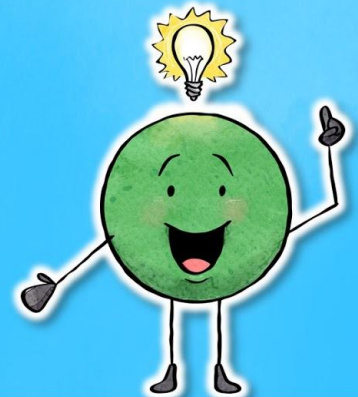
# The answer is...

Say "ok"  
and change  
the subject.

OR

Tell your friend  
you don't like to  
talk about other  
people.

You don't know that it's true, and even if it is,  
it's not your business.



Someone told  
you that  
someone else  
was saying bad  
things about  
your friend on a  
social media

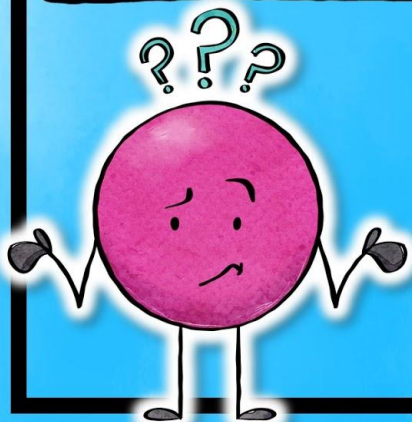
WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

Say "ok" and  
change the  
subject and  
move on.

Go tell your  
friend.

Tell  
everyone  
that  
person is  
mean.

Go tell that  
person to  
stop saying  
mean things  
about your  
friend.

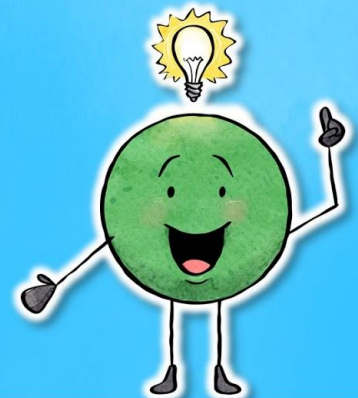


# The answer is...

Say "ok" and  
change the  
subject and  
move on.

You don't know if this is true. Even though you want to be a good friend, this is just a rumor and it's best to stay out of it.

*\*If you see something mean posted on social media with your own eyes, talk to a trusted adult about how to handle it.*



Someone told you that your friend said they didn't want to be your friend anymore.

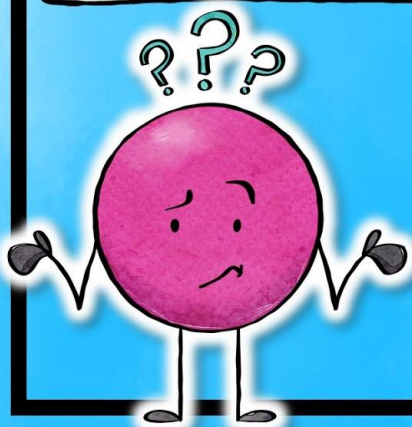
WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

Stop talking to your friend.

Say "ok" but don't believe them.

Go ask your friend about it.

Call them a liar.



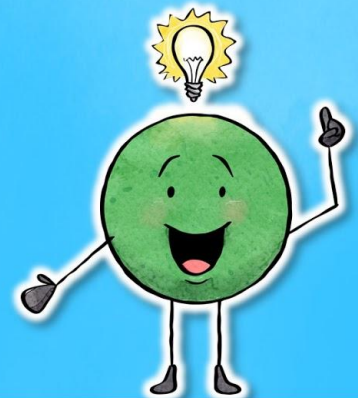
# The answer is...

Say "ok" but  
don't believe  
them.

OR

Go ask your  
friend  
about it.

Just because someone said it does NOT  
mean it is true. You don't want to get into a  
fight with your friend over a rumor.



Someone was crying in class today.

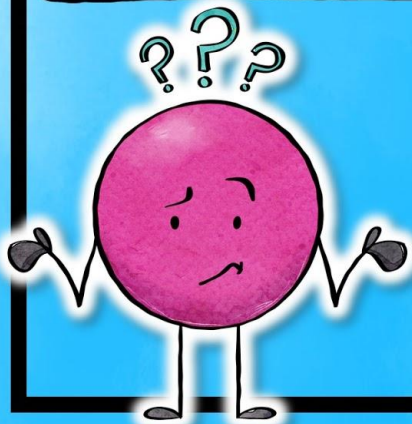
WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

Ask them later "Are you ok? What's wrong?"

Do what you would want them to do if it was you – pretend it never happened

Tell the people at your table in art class

Text people about it when you get home.





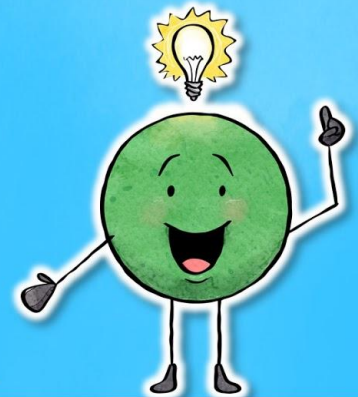
# The answer is...

Ask them later "Are you ok? What's wrong?"

OR

Do what you would want them to do if it was you – pretend it never happened

If they are someone you consider a friend, you might want to see if you can help them feel better. If you're not close to them, you should probably leave them be. Either way, their feelings are not your business to share.



You're in a group text that seems to mostly be talking about other people.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

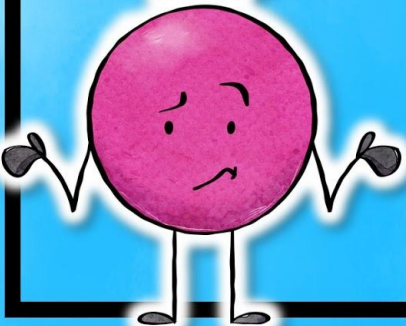
Join in.

Leave the group.

Try changing the subject and talking about other stuff.

Use silly emojis to respond.

???



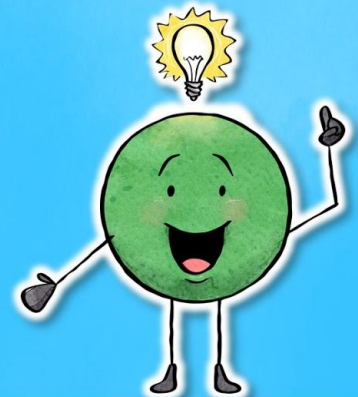
# The answer is...

Try changing the subject and talking about other stuff.

OR

Leave the group.

Avoid getting involved with gossiping about others. Find something else to talk about or something else to do.



You've seen a few posts online by someone that make you think they might hurt themselves.

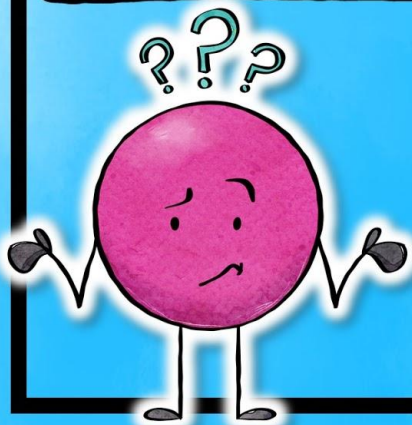
WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

Text your friend to see if they saw it too.

Take screenshots and send them in a group text

Ignore it and keep scrolling.

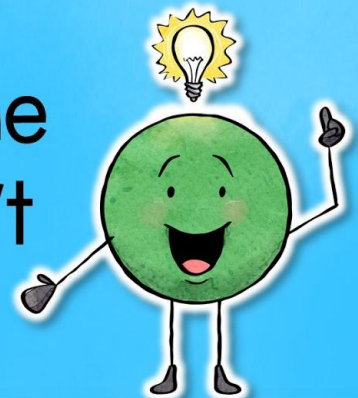
Talk to a trusted adult (parent, teacher, counselor, etc.) about it.



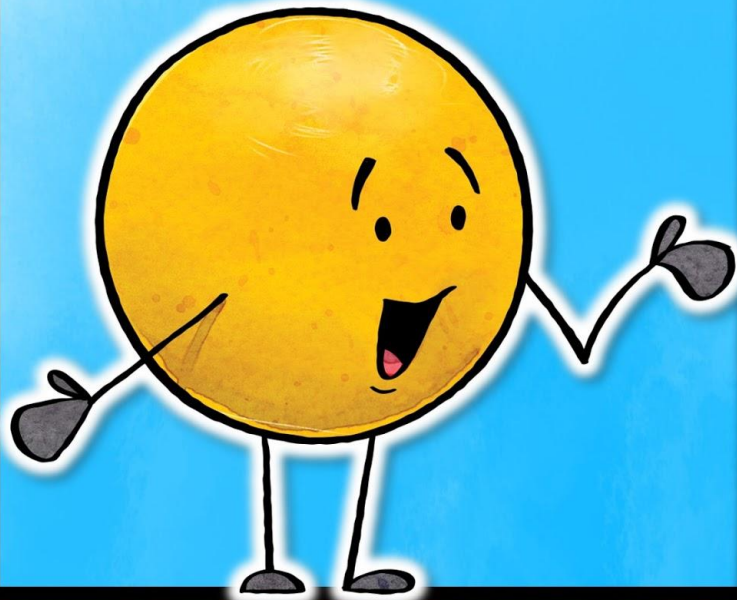
# The answer is...

Talk to a trusted adult (parent, teacher, counselor, etc. ) about it.

Anytime someone might be in danger, the regular rules of gossip and rumors don't apply. Talk to an adult right away.



What can you  
talk about  
besides other  
people or  
rumors?  
List 5 ideas.



○

1.

2.

○

3.

4.

○

5.

# WHY DO PEOPLE SPREAD GOSSIP AND RUMORS?

Sometimes talking about other people or sharing information can make someone feel special or powerful. They might think people will like them or want to talk to them if they gossip about other people or spread rumors.

# Gossip Game F2F Only

- Get into teams of 4 or 5
- Get into a line so you can pass it down to each other.
- Next the first person will be gives some glitter you must pass the glitter to everyone in your group.



# Gossip Game Rules

In order to win there can be no glitter on the...

- Floor
- Desk
- Your cloths
- Or hands

**Did anyone win?**

- **Write down what happened on your worksheet and then we will discuss the activity...**

## Gossip Game questions..

1. Have you ever had a gossip or rumor spread about you?
2. Have you ever heard someone gossip about someone else?
3. Have you ever gossiped about someone else?
4. How did it feel in the moment?
5. How did it feel afterwards?
6. If you are the one being gossiped about how did it make you feel?
7. How did it affect your friendships and trust in those friend?

# Gossip Poem

<https://www.ars.usda.gov/ARSTUserFiles/ODEO/crp/Gossip%20Poem.pdf>

# Gossip- Why We Gossip



# Why I wanted to talk about Gossip....

Share...

If you would like to share your side of the story I would like to hear it. If not I will be calling you in to share your side.

Way to stop someone from gossiping..- Ask this question to the person gossiping

Why are you telling me this??