

Activity 15

Insiders and Outsiders

Directions: Read the paragraph below and answer the questions that follow.

Sometimes groups of teens can be like locked buildings. Those who are inside may shut others out by making them feel unwelcome. They may even mock or tease those who are not part of their group. Such teens are also likely to ridicule people whom they see as inferior or weak in some way. They might pick on people who have physical or mental disabilities, people who belong to a different race or religion, or anyone who looks, dresses, or acts in a way that the group judges as “not cool.”

1. Why do you think that some teens make others feel like outsiders?

2. Describe how it would feel to be excluded.

3. How can people build self-confidence and sense of belonging without hurting others?

4. What action might you take if a group of your friends started making someone outside the group feel unwanted or inferior?
