

## The Bully's Choice

By Lois Walker

## **ESTABLISHING THE RHYTHM**

To find the proper rhythm for this piece, first read-aloud and clap through the sections as you go. Each underlined word or word part falls directly on a beat. As you read, clap on each underlined word, keeping the rhythm steady. Be careful not to read too fast!

This is a rehearsal technique and readers will not clap throughout these sections during performance. After you have established the beat, it is time to start interpreting, experimenting, and having fun with the words by varying tempo, volume, inflection, and expression.

**FORMATTING:** This Choral Reading/Speaking script has been formatted is formatted for 1 to 5 SOLO READERS (use the same solo reader for the solo lines or assign 5 different solo readers), ALL GIRLS, ALL BOYS, AND ALL.

**RESEARCH:** Descriptions of bullying behavior and Restorative Justice suggestions for student involvement in stamping out this kind of behavior came from a variety of online resources. However, most of the information came from an online PDF pamphlet entitled "**Safe to Learn:** Embedding anti-bullying work in schools". More information can be found at: <a href="https://www.teachernet.gov.uk/publications">www.teachernet.gov.uk/publications</a>

**GUIDE:** A free Choral Reading/Speaking Teacher's guide may be found online at: <a href="http://www.scriptsforschools.com/90.html">http://www.scriptsforschools.com/90.html</a>

## Verse 1

ALL: When a bully strikes

Does something we dislike,

Does <u>some</u>thing mean and <u>cruel</u>,

We're all hurt...

ALL GIRLS: The <u>bul</u>ly,

ALL BOYS: The <u>bull</u>ied,

ALL: And <u>ev</u>eryone at <u>school</u>!

SOLO READER: So, <u>ask</u> that <u>bull</u>y...

(Draw out the following question as indicated, putting the emphasis on the "ha" in the word "happened").

ALL: Whaaat happened?

ALL GIRLS: What were you thinking,

What <u>do</u> you think <u>now</u>?

Who do you think was hurt,

And do you know how?

ALL BOYS: We're <u>al</u>ways making <u>choice</u>s

Morning, noon, and night...

So <u>now</u> what do you <u>chose</u> to do

To <u>put</u> things <u>right</u>?

ALL GIRLS: Now what do you *chose* to do

To <u>put</u> things <u>right</u>?

## Verse 2

ALL: It's <u>up</u> to us to <u>heal</u> the harm,

To <u>stand</u> together, <u>arm</u> in arm, To <u>think</u> about just <u>how</u> we feel,

We <u>feel</u> about...

ALL GIRLS: The <u>bul</u>ly,

ALL BOYS: The <u>bull</u>ied,

ALL: And <u>all</u> who need to <u>heal!</u>

SOLO READER: So, <u>ask</u> that <u>bull</u>y...

ALL: Whaaat happened?

ALL GIRLS: What were you thinking,

What <u>do</u> you think <u>now</u>?

Who do you think was hurt,

And <u>do</u> you know <u>how</u>?

ALL BOYS: We're <u>al</u>ways making <u>choice</u>s

Morning, noon, and night...

So <u>now</u> what do you <u>chose</u> to do

To <u>put</u> things <u>right</u>?

ALL GIRLS: Now what do you *chose* to do

To <u>put</u> things <u>right</u>?

Verse 3

ALL: When <u>bull</u>ies misbe<u>have</u>,

It's <u>our</u> job to be <u>brave</u>.

We cannot turn our backs,

And ignore...

ALL GIRLS: The <u>bul</u>ly,

ALL BOYS: The <u>bull</u>ied,

ALL: Or <u>dis</u>regard the <u>facts</u>.

SOLO READER: So, <u>ask</u> that <u>bull</u>y...

ALL: Whaaat happened?

ALL GIRLS: What were you thinking,

What <u>do</u> you think <u>now</u>?

Who do you think was hurt,

And <u>do</u> you know <u>how</u>?

ALL BOYS" We're <u>al</u>ways making <u>choice</u>s

Morning, noon, and night...

So <u>now</u> what do you <u>chose</u> to do

To <u>put</u> things <u>right</u>?