

Scenarios – Cut out each square and distribute

Rachel and her friends

Rachel and Sasha are having a sleepover at their friend Anna's house. They are looking through magazines when Anna says:

'Ewww! You're joking! I used to like her, I didn't know that she was like that!'

Rachel and Sasha hover over her shoulder to see what she's talking about. In the magazine there's an interview with a famous Hollywood actress who all of the girls like. Next to a picture of the actress is a caption quoting her: 'I've experimented with both men and women and, yes, I see myself as bisexual.'

'No way!' says Sasha, 'Her? Really?'

'I guess that's who Lindsey and Jemma are copying then. Imagine it – gross!'" says Anna.

Lindsey and Jemma are two girls in their grade who have been best friends for years. Recently there's been a rumor going around that they're actually going out with each other and a boy in their grade says that he saw them kissing each other behind the school. Rachel has heard a group of boys in their year shout things at them like: 'lezzy weirdos' and 'dykes'.

Sasha and Anna keep gossiping and don't seem to notice that Rachel isn't saying anything. Rachel is feeling uncomfortable and annoyed with her friends. She's thinking that it's not that fair – who cares if Lindsey and Jemma are going out with each other? Or who the actress sleeps with? Lots of people are gay or lesbian or bi or whatever, who cares?

What should Rachel do?

Dylan on the bus

Dylan is on the bus home from school. He lives quite far out of town and his friends have already **gotten** off the bus before him. The bus is nearly empty except for him and two other students, Craig and Josh, who are sitting in the seats in front of Dylan.

Dylan overhears Craig and Josh talking about their math teacher and how unfair it was of him to assign so much work over the holidays.

"It's so unfair!" says Craig, "None of the other **teachers** did". "I know" says Josh, "It's totally gay that he would do that".

"Sooooo gay!" says Craig.

Dylan feels uncomfortable with Craig and Josh using that word in this way. Dylan is not gay himself, but he grew up in a household with two dads, and knows that being gay is nothing to be ashamed of and that using the word gay as an insult is hurtful and wrong.

Craig and Josh continue to use derogatory names like "gay, poof" and so on, making Dylan feel increasingly worse.

Dylan doesn't know Craig and Josh very well, but he wants them to know that using these words is harmful and wrong.

What should Dylan do?

Jenna's Aunt Mary

Jenna has been thinking about her sexuality for a while now. She has spoken about it a little bit with her guidance counsellor but hasn't told anyone else.

One night, Jenna and her family are getting ready for a family reunion. They have invited over several of their relatives and Jenna is helping her mom in the kitchen.

Jenna asks her mom which family members are coming over, and her mom says a few names. Jenna can't help but notice that her Aunt Mary has not been invited.

"What about Aunt Mary?" says Jenna. Her mom pauses and gives her a serious look. She sighs and says that Jenna is old enough to know now: Aunt Mary is a lesbian and has been living with her girlfriend for the last five years.

Jenna's mom looks really upset. 'That sort of thing isn't right Jenna, and I'm not having it – living with another woman for God's sake! I wouldn't be exposing you to that nonsense. She knows the family doesn't approve of her and she just goes right ahead and does it anyway.'

Jenna feels ashamed and sad. Even though her guidance counsellor has supported her in coming out to her friends and family, her mother's feelings about her aunt being a lesbian have made her feel really scared to come out or speak to anyone about her identity.

What should Jenna do?

Katie in gym class

Katie's friend Nicole recently told her that she thinks she might be a lesbian. Nicole tells this to Katie right before they start their first year of grade 8.

Katie was happy that her friend felt comfortable telling her, and told her that she wouldn't share it with anyone else until Nicole felt comfortable coming out to everyone.

When Katie and Nicole return to school, however, they're placed in different classes, and their friendship fades a little bit. Even though Katie was supportive of Nicole's decision to come out, the two of them drift apart.

One day, a popular girl in Katie's class comes over and tells her that she heard a rumor that Nicole is gay. "Have you heard that Nicole is gay? Gross! Good thing you two aren't friends anymore".

Katie says nothing but feels bad for her friend and wonders how everyone found out about Nicole's sexuality.

Later that day, in gym class, the one class Katie and Nicole share, the girls see each other in the change room. As Nicole walks in, all of the other girls begin to whisper and make a scene by dramatically covering up their bodies in front of her.

Nicole looks as if she is about to cry and storms out of the change room into the hallway.

Everyone but Katie begin to laugh and roll their eyes. The popular girls invite Katie to be on their team for volleyball in gym that day, but Katie is thinking about Nicole and feeling sad.

What should Katie do?

Joe's dad

Joe's parents recently got a divorce. Joe's dad came out as gay, causing him and Joe's mom to split up. While it was stressful on the family, Joe and his mom are both happy that his dad can now be who he wants to be.

Joe has seen several therapists both with his parents and alone, and finally feels okay about the situation.

However, Joe has only told a few of his friends the real reason that his parents split up, and has kept it from all of the boys on his hockey team.

Even though Joe is okay with his dad being gay, he and his friends on the hockey team make gay jokes in the locker room all the time. Joe doesn't agree with the jokes, but feels making jokes like that is necessary for him to fit in with the rest of his team. Joe doesn't know how to tell his teammates about his dad, so he doesn't.

One day, after Joe's parents have been split up for a long time, Joe's dad starts dating another man. After Joe has met him several times, Joe's dad announces that he would like to bring his new partner to one of Joe's hockey games.

While Joe has no problem hanging out with his dad and his new boyfriend, he is nervous about bringing them into spaces where his friends might be, especially his friends on the hockey team.

Joe can tell that his dad wants to be a part of his life but doesn't know if his teammates will understand.

What should Joe do?