**LESSON: *I Can Handle Cliques***

**OUTLINE**

1. Introduce the topic of **cliques**. Ask for students’ input, then define **cliques** as being groups of friends. Explain the difference between a group of friends and a clique.
2. Talk about how there’s usually one or two assertive kids who seem to be the leaders of the clique. Explain that sometimes kids act differently than they did before when they’re part of a clique. Acknowledge that this can be confusing.
3. Discuss why kids join cliques (i.e. same interests, to be popular, to belong) and why someone might not be part of a clique (i.e. they look, act, or dress differently; they’re new to the school, etc.)
4. Talk about how it feels to be outside of the clique
5. Talk about how kids’ behaviors might change when they belong to a clique (i.e. they go along with what others are doing; leave a friend out; act differently towards others, etc.)
6. Explain that some kids in a clique might even feel badly about how they treat others but they don’t know what to do about it. **Emphasize that lots of kids manage to be nice to everyone – whether they’re with their closest friends or not. They do all of this without being part of a clique!**
7. Talk about who can help and how they can help if cliques are causing a problem for you. (i.e. family, friends, teachers, etc.)
8. **Introduce the 5 strategies to try:**
9. **Find friends**
10. **Speak up**
11. **Invite a friend**
12. **Don’t take it out on yourself**
13. **Look for friends everywhere**

**MATERIALS NEEDED:**

* Facilitator’s Guide
* Computer & Projector
* Activity Sheet(s) & materials
* Magnet Cards
1. So what do YOU think? discussion question
2. Give out the magnet cards