

Lesson 22



Area: Don't Gossip

Title: **That's What I Heard**

Objective: Students will create statements of gossip and then assess the impact of such statements on others.

Materials: Board or Overhead
3x5 scraps of paper and tape, or Post It notes (larger variety)

Activity:

1. Write the words "positive", "neutral", and "negative" on the board. Leave space between the words. This is the "Gossip Continuum".
2. On the scraps of paper, the student will write down two examples of things that are said about other people, i.e. students, teachers, and parents. No names are used in these statements.
3. After two to three minutes, collect the statements and read each one aloud. The students will discuss, and then reach consensus, on where the statement fits on the "Gossip Continuum".

Closure: Discuss the following:

1. "How much of what you say, listen to, or hear is gossip?"
2. "How much of what you say is positive, neutral, or hurtful?"
3. "Where were the majority of statements on the continuum?"
4. "What are some additional positive comments that may be said about others?"