

ACTOR 1

(Spirited)

Hi guys! How're we doing this morning?

AUDIENCE

Good.

ACTOR 1

Come on we can do a *little* better than that. How're we doing?

AUDIENCE

GOOD!

ACTOR 1

There it is!

ACTOR 1 crosses downstage left, makes his way over to downstage right, and ends center stage. This engages the audience.

ACTOR 1 (CONT'D)

(Actor 1 reveals his plan)

So I was *planning* on coming to your school today to *solve* the problem of bullying by talking to you about it. But what if I told you, that we can solve the problem of bullying **without talking about it!**

On 'without', ACTOR 1 does crazy gestures and silly movement to get the students AND teachers to laugh. This, of course, is not the response ACTOR 1 is looking for. He walks toward the Bose speaker and presses PLAY for the APPLAUSE track.

ACTOR 1 (CONT'D)

(surprisingly delighted)

Oh! Thank you! Thank you. Thank you very much

ACTOR 1 turns off the BOSE

ACTOR 1 (CONT'D)
 (building excitement)
 Now, inside this box that just came in lies the
 answer that will solve the problem of bullying **this**
very instant!

On 'answer', ACTOR 1 takes off the sheet to reveal the BOX. Do not pause after the reveal.

ACTOR 1 (CONT'D)
 (Delighted)
 Oh, thank you! Now I need to tell you that **this box**
 has special powers. In fact, I'm getting some type
 of signal from it right now.

Actor 1 stands stage right of the BOX. Left hand hovers over it, and it catches the actors attention. The BOX sends it's 'powers' through him. Each sound ACTOR 1 makes is bigger than the last. WATCH VIDEO FOR SOUNDS AND MOVEMENTS.

ACTOR 1 (CONT'D)
 WHOA! You have a school-wide credo called ROAR? That stands for
 Respectful, Organized, Attentive, and Ready to learn, is that right?

AUDIENCE
 Yes!

ACTOR 1
 That's awesome!

ACTOR 1 crosses to stage left of the BOX. The walk is one of confidence. Suddenly Actor 1 stops, the box is sending another signal.

ACTOR 1 (CONT'D)
 Wait here's another signal.

WATCH VIDEO FOR SOUNDS AND MOVEMENTS. This time, the BOX is reaching to more parts of ACTOR 1'S body than just arms. It starts to affect feet too!

ACTOR 1 (CONT'D)
 WHOA! This week you're having a special event
 called Lion Pride? That's where you come and
 have a dance marathon where you raise money to
 help children with pediatric cancer? That's great!
 Give yourselves a round of applause.

ACTOR 1 crosses to be directly downstage of the BOX. Again, the walk is confident. The BOX suddenly draws the actors arms back toward it, as if it has something **very** important to tell.

ACTOR 1 (CONT'D)

Wait! Here's one more!

WATCH VIDEO FOR SOUNDS AND MOVEMENTS. The BOX sends the most important message, making ACTOR 1'S actions more sporadic throughout his body.

ACTOR 1 (CONT'D)

(Over the top)

Oh man, you're going to love this one. Tomorrow,
all day recess!

AUDIENCE erupts in applause. ACTOR 1 celebrates, too. But then serious. ACTOR 1 notices the teachers disappointment, and instantly regrets the claim. The actor is caught and is embarrassed.

ACTOR 1 (CONT'D)

At your teacher's discretion, of course. *At your teacher's discretion.* Now, I know that bullying is a problem in schools in (NAME OF STATE or NYC BOROUGH) and across the country and you guys are definitely not alone. In fact, **(Actor 1 pulls down red sheet)** over 160,000 students in America skip school everyday because of fear. And I don't blame them. On average one out of every three of you experience some kind of bullying once a week, and by the tenth grade, four out of five of you will be bullied, or watch someone else get picked on. And I don't know why this is happening. And that's why I called my cousin, Jerry. He'll know the answer. See, Jerry and I have known each other, for, forever! But we're not as close as we used to be ever since that **family trip to Georgia!**

ACTOR 1 strikes wrathful pose on **family trip to Georgia**. AUDIENCE laughs.
 ACTOR 1 looks at audience, embarrassedly, breaks pose.

ACTOR 1 (CONT'D)

(Trying to save face, Re-energized)

You know what? Let's just open the box on our own. No need for Jerry. I mean he'll show up, I'll say hi, he'll say hi, then I'll say bye, then that'll be that! So, here we go. Bullying days be gone!

ACTOR 1 faces BOX, "grabs" far ends, and lifts up, making funny noise. It doesn't budge. AUDIENCE laughs. ACTOR 1 looks at audience, embarrassingly failure face. Turns around, then moves legs and moves butt.

ACTOR 1 (CONT'D)

(Embarrassed and desperately trying to keep cool)

Ah, you know what, let's just forget that box...

ACTOR 1 crosses to Bose, picks up phone with left hand. Preps right hand for the raise.

ACTOR 1 (CONT'D)

(Angrily toward the Box)

How many of you think the best way of solving a problem is by making believe that the problem doesn't even exist?!

ACTOR 1, right hand raised, left hand hits play. Bose speaker gives a "boo" sound. ACTOR 1 lowers hand, hits pause, places phone next to Bose speaker and crosses to center stage, with a new solution.

ACTOR 1 (CONT'D)

(Explanation to the audience)

Yeah, that's not a good thing. So I know what you're thinking. You're thinking 'he doesn't want to open the box and have his cousin come*...