



## 3 Taking the Bully by the Horns

Supplementary

Meena, Anu, and Ajay are in Class 7. Anu is the shortest in their class and Ajay is always making fun of her height. He calls her by nick names which draw attention to her size, and is constantly patting her on the head to show how short she is. Anu, already self conscious, feels hurt but she doesn't say anything. Meena sometimes laughs with Ajay when he is mocking Anu but she also feels sorry for her.



**Have you or someone you know ever been in a similar situation?**

While growing up, it is common for children to tease each other. But when someone purposely makes fun of another or forces them to do things even if they make it clear they don't want to, it is called **bullying**.

We like to have fun together with friends. Sometimes, we may even want to do something only because our friends are doing them, even if we know it will get us into trouble or is wrong. For example, Meena knows that Anu feels hurt when Ajay teases her. But she does not want to say anything because she is Ajay's friend and does not want to upset him. Ajay knows that Anu is upset, but continues to bully her because it gives him a feeling of control. Also he enjoys the attention he is getting from others who laugh instead of telling him to stop.

