The Gateway Gang

Once upon a time in the peaceful land of [Your Program Name], a community of people lived happily together. They worked well together to get their work done, studied hard and had lots and lots of friends. In this community they believed very strongly in the values of [Your Program Values], and practiced these values by agreeing to [3 Group Agreements].

One day at sunset, when all was going well, a mean and tough gang rode into this peaceful land, with nothing but hate and anger in their hearts. This gang wanted to disrupt the peace of [Your Program Name]. They called themselves [Gateway Characters], and let's not forget the meanest of em all.

When the gang first rode into town, the peaceful community of [Your Program Name] was nervous and afraid, but the gang won them over by saying, “Come on, folks! It’s fun to be mean! It’s fun to start fights! Don’t be such sissys, you know we’re right!” And it wasn’t long before that mean old gang had started up some problems. For starters, someone started to [Problem Identified in Your Gateway Discussion, like tell secrets, or push in line], then it wasn’t long after that before [Problem], and soon enough there was fighting, name calling, suspensions… the whole peaceful community became an unsafe place. And worst of all, it didn’t even feel like a community anymore. Because once the conflicts started, trust was broken. Friendships were destroyed. No one wanted to work together anymore. People in the community didn’t have time to learn together—they
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were too busy watching their backs. It was a disaster.

That is... Until one day. A small young girl stood up in the midst of a group fight and shouted, “Enough! What is wrong with all of us! We agreed to ____________________________ , ____________________________ , ____________________________ and ____________________________. Have we forgotten that? Why are we letting this gateway gang ruin us! We need to chase them out of here!”

And the community whooped and cheered—they were so relieved that someone finally came up with a solution. So they began to hunt out the gang, and drive them out of town... but it was difficult work. That gang was so sneaky they would try to sneak back into town. It took lots of work for the community of to keep driving out that gang. But as they worked together to fight for the community they believed in, they remembered their values, and became stronger. They learned that a little conflict wasn’t going to tear apart their community, in fact, it had made them stronger, and more committed to stand up for their beliefs, because they saw the ruins they came to when they didn’t.

Now I’ll tell you this... that gateway gang is sneaky. And they may show up right here in this community. So when we see them, what are we going to do?

We need to chase them out, by saying our community agreements.

We need to chase them out, by remembering our values.

We need to chase them out, by being strong and standing up for our beliefs.

Are we ready to chase out the gateway gang?