



Orbeez warning !

Parents please take notice.

Law enforcement was recently alerted to a number of TikTok challenges, which are not only criminal acts but also dangerous. The “slap your teacher” challenge led to widespread reports of students assaulting their teachers. Next came the “devious licks” challenge, known as the “bathroom challenge”, which had students stealing items from, or vandalizing, school bathrooms. This challenge expanded to include stealing items from anywhere in the school. There were reports of desks, chairs, and projectors being stolen by those participating in these challenges. Now comes the latest challenge that is sweeping across the country after going viral on Tiktok. The challenge encourages participants to shoot Orbeez, which are small water-absorbent polymer beads that expand after they have been submerged in water. The Orbeez are shot out of an “Air-Soft” or gel-ball gun or similar device.

Unfortunately, the challenge rapidly expanded from shooting at each other to shooting at strangers, vehicles, and homes. There have been numerous reports of individuals struck with Orbeez that were frozen prior to being used in the challenge. The frozen Orbees have resulted in cuts to the skin, welts, bruises, and more. Property damage from the challenge is also on the rise with homes and vehicles sustaining damage after being hit with these projectiles.

Law enforcement agencies are also stressing that this challenge is no joke. Those who participate in the challenge and shoot at random individuals can face serious charges, including assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.