

Kids Just Want to Have Fun!

(Target audience: children in grades K - 5)

This is a 7-minute video designed to support children and teens with physical differences. It focuses on differences rather than handicaps or disabilities.

“Kids Just Want to Have Fun!” features children with cerebral palsy, neuromuscular conditions, spina bifida, amputations, cleft lip and palate, and burn scars. It shows them enjoying all types of activities and sports, such as kayaking, swimming, bull riding and skiing. The children talk openly about their lives and their differences.

Goals

- To increase awareness and understanding of children with physical differences.
- To increase acceptance of children with physical differences.

How to prepare a class or group to view the video

Talk briefly about how each of us looks different in some way. Explain that some differences can be caused by illness, injury or problems before we are born. Say that this video shows kids who have some of these differences and it shows that they enjoy doing the same things that all kids do. Mention that we all have seen kids with these types of differences, but maybe didn't even notice their differences that much because the most important thing is that they're just great kids.

Important learning concepts

- We are all different in some ways.
- We are all alike in many ways.
- We are all more alike than different.
-

Kids Just Want to Have Fun!

(Target audience: children in grades K - 5)

This is a 7-minute video designed to support children and teens with physical differences. It focuses on differences rather than handicaps or disabilities.

“Kids Just Want to Have Fun!” features children with cerebral palsy, neuromuscular conditions, spina bifida, amputations, cleft lip and palate, and burn scars. It shows them enjoying all types of activities and sports, such as kayaking, swimming, bull riding and skiing. The children talk openly about their lives and their differences.

Goals

- To increase awareness and understanding of children with physical differences.
- To increase acceptance of children with physical differences.

How to prepare a class or group to view the video

Talk briefly about how each of us looks different in some way. Explain that some differences can be caused by illness, injury or problems before we are born. Say that this video shows kids who have some of these differences and it shows that they enjoy doing the same things that all kids do. Mention that we all have seen kids with these types of differences, but maybe didn't even notice their differences that much because the most important thing is that they're just great kids.

Important learning concepts

- We are all different in some ways.
- We are all alike in many ways.
- We are all more alike than different.

- Even though we look different, we have the same feelings and enjoy the same things.
- It is okay to be different. Differences make us who we are.
- Kids with differences, like all kids, just want to have fun.

Suggested discussion questions

- What differences did you notice in the video?
- How are you different from kids in the video?
- How are you the same as the kids in the video? (Enjoy the same activities, have the same feelings, share some physical traits, etc.)
- Why is it okay to be different?
- How do you treat children with differences? (Like you treat everyone else.)
- Why is it okay to ask about differences? (It is better to ask questions than to point to stare.)

Vocabulary

Amputation: the loss of a leg or arm due to an accident, illness or condition present at birth.

Cerebral palsy: an injury to a developing brain that causes problems with muscle control, movement and posture.

Cleft lip and palate: sections of the lip and/or roof of the mouth fail to grow together normally prior to birth, causing possible scarring and speech or dental problems.

Orthotic: a brace used to stabilize a weak limb or joint.

Prosthesis: an artificial limb, or part of a limb, which replaces a missing arm or leg.

Spina bifida: the spinal cord fails to perform normally before birth, causing problems with bones, muscles and the brain.

For information, visit our Web site at www.arnoldcreekproductions.com.
© 2004 Arnold Creek Productions

- Even though we look different, we have the same feelings and enjoy the same things.
- It is okay to be different. Differences make us who we are.
- Kids with differences, like all kids, just want to have fun.

Suggested discussion questions

- What differences did you notice in the video?
- How are you different from kids in the video?
- How are you the same as the kids in the video? (Enjoy the same activities, have the same feelings, share some physical traits, etc.)
- Why is it okay to be different?
- How do you treat children with differences? (Like you treat everyone else.)
- Why is it okay to ask about differences? (It is better to ask questions than to point to stare.)

Vocabulary

Amputation: the loss of a leg or arm due to an accident, illness or condition present at birth.

Cerebral palsy: an injury to a developing brain that causes problems with muscle control, movement and posture.

Cleft lip and palate: sections of the lip and/or roof of the mouth fail to grow together normally prior to birth, causing possible scarring and speech or dental problems.

Orthotic: a brace used to stabilize a weak limb or joint.

Prosthesis: an artificial limb, or part of a limb, which replaces a missing arm or leg.

Spina bifida: the spinal cord fails to perform normally before birth, causing problems with bones, muscles and the brain.

For information, visit our Web site at www.arnoldcreekproductions.com.
© 2004 Arnold Creek Productions