



## Acceptance

**Acceptance** means respecting the differences among people. It entails recognizing different opinions and ideas.

*The Service Link is presented to promote and encourage service learning throughout the school community to encourage and maximum involvement from all stakeholders.*

*Service Learning is a teaching and learning strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction to teach civic responsibility and to strengthen communities. It actively engages participants in meaningful and relevant service activities. Through service learning, young people use what they learn in the classroom to solve real-life problems.*

*Students build character and become active participants as they work with others to create service projects in areas such as education, public safety, and the environment. The following activities address real community challenges using knowledge and skills learned in the classroom:*

### *Enjoy A Garden of Beauty!*

- *Plant a garden to illustrate the Beauty of Different Colors, Shapes and Sizes. Note how the more varied and colorful it is, the more beauty it radiates. Create a garden sign that says: Our greatest strength as a human race is our ability to embrace our differences; our greatest weakness is our failure to accept them.*

### *Promote Acceptance of Children with Disabilities!*

- *Kids with physical differences, like all kids, just want to be accepted, Help break down stereotypes about children with physical differences and promotes discussion between children, teachers and parents. Create an awareness campaign by highlighting famous people to illustrate how Acceptance played an important role in these celebrity's lives:*
- *Tom Cruise – He is a famous movie star. He learns his lines by listening to a tape because he suffers from dyslexia.*
- *Walt Disney – He was slow in school work and did not have a successful school experience but later became a well-known movie producer, cartoonist and theme park developer.*
- *Albert Einstein - As a child, he could not talk until he age of three. He did not learn to read until he was nine. His teachers considered him to be mentally slow, unsociable, and a dreamer. He failed the entrance examination for college. Ultimately, he developed the Theory of Relativity.*



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## *Make Special Olympics Extra Special!*

- *Support Special Olympics in your area. Participate in a fund raising campaign to support this organization.*
- *Give your time and volunteer to assist on "Game Day."*
- *Feel the Love you will receive from the smiles of Special Kids!*

## *Shades of Green make for a Great Hike!*

- *Organize a Photography Hike through a local park or woods. Take photos of different leaves and plants to illustrate the many shades of green that make the environment beautiful. Discuss the differences in each leaf and encourage all hikers to make a photo collage to share with a family member as a reminder of the beauty of being different.*

*Consider participating in or initiating a service-learning project in your school and community to foster Acceptance throughout the community; it will prove to be a worthy endeavor that will serve as an example for others to follow.*