

# Acceptance

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

## Lesson 1

Read the definition of ACCEPTANCE. Explain that a respectful person includes everyone, even if someone is different. Tell students to listen to a story about a rude boy who didn't accept everyone. Read: There once was a boy named Jude who stared at people who were different. Jude was very rude. He did not include Cecil in his game because he was in a wheelchair. Jude laughed and pointed at Cecil. Rude Jude made Cecil feel sad and lonely. Lead a discussion with students asking the following questions. What made Cecil different? Ask students why Jude was rude. What could Jude do to show acceptance to Cecil? Remind students that it is important to be accepting of others.

**School/Home Link:** Ask students to tell a family member how Rude Jude did not show acceptance.

## Lesson 2

Review the definition of ACCEPTANCE. Emphasize that a respectful person accepts everyone. Review yesterday's activity about Rude Jude and how he laughed and pointed at Cecil because he was in a wheelchair. Teach the following poem: Jude thinks he's cool. He stares at people at school. Oh Jude! How rude! He laughs and makes fun of everyone he sees. He trips them to see them fall on their knees. Poor Jude, he is so rude. Let's help Jude become a real cool dude. Ask students to think of ways they could help Jude be a "cool dude."

**School/Home Link:** Ask students to ask a family member to think of things to teach Jude to help him not be rude.

## Lesson 3

Review the definition of ACCEPTANCE. Read the following quote by Eleanor Roosevelt: "You have to accept whatever comes and the only important thing is that you meet it with the best you have to give." Discuss the following situations and ask students how they can show acceptance with the best they have to give. Read: 1) Your new baby brother cries and always needs a lot of attention. How can you be accepting of his needs? 2) A new girl at school comes from another country and has no friends. She speaks differently and others laugh when she talks. How can you be accepting of her needs? 3) Grandma has a hard time hearing and you often have to repeat everything you say many times for her to hear it. How can you be accepting of her needs? As time allows, discuss how each situation applies to students' lives.

**School/Home Link:** Ask students to share with a family member how important it is to accept differences in others and always give the best you have to give.

## Lesson 4

Review the definition of ACCEPTANCE. Tell students to listen to the following statements. Instruct them to stand up if the statement would make them feel accepted and to sit down if it does not make them feel accepted. Read the following sentences:

- You have a nice smile. (stand up)
- Your shirt looks ugly. (sit down)
- I like your pretty picture. (stand up)
- You are not my friend! (sit down)
- I want to play with you. (stand up)

**School/Home Link:** Ask students to give someone in their family a smile to help them feel accepted.

## Lesson 5

Review the definition of ACCEPTANCE. Ask students to name some things they can do to make someone feel accepted at recess. As time allows, tell students to draw a picture of children playing together and explain how their picture illustrates acceptance.

**School/Home Link:** Ask students to show their picture to a family member and explain what it means.

## Common Core English Language Arts Standards:

L.1.1, L.1.2, L.1.4, L.1.6, SL.1.1, SL.1.4, SL.1.6, RF.1.3