

The Sneetches by Dr. Seuss ~ Music and lyrics by Lory Lazarus

Bamboozled by one Sylvester McMonkey McBean, the Star-belly Sneetches and the Plain-belly Sneetches (the star was symbol of superiority) learn how silly it is to judge people on superficial things and that prejudice is pointless and can be costly.

Social Studies Objectives – Get Students Talking about Consumer Culture, Prejudice, Unity, Diversity, Media/Social Pressure, School Uniforms

Character Education/Resilience Skills Objectives – Get Students Talking about Acceptance, Kindness, Humility, Teamwork, Self-worth

DISCUSSION THEMES:

-Prejudice- what forms?

-Consumer culture: How much is enough, how do we share?

STUDY GUIDE:

SNEETCHES (*Ethical Discussion Based*)

GRADES K-2 & Grade Levels: 3-5: LEARNING HOW TO BE FRIENDS

GOAL:

People are different, and those differences make each of us special.



Learner Outcomes:

- Students will compare and contrast ways in which people are alike and different.
- Students will state how some differences in people cause problems like prejudice.
- Students will list different kinds of prejudice and how it affects people.
- Students will list ways in which they can overcome prejudice.

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES:

1. Pre-teach and re-teach vocabulary (*prejudice, discrimination, etc.*) as needed.
2. Invite a person with a disability to speak to your students about how they live with their disability. Make sure to talk with your speaker prior to their talking with students. Make sure it is okay with the speaker for students to ask questions relating to their disability (*i.e. Do people make fun of you because you are deaf? How does that make you feel?, etc.*)
3. Have students learn sign language alphabet or selected words in sign language.
4. Provide Braille alphabet cards for students. Have them close their eyes and try to "read" with their fingertips.

1. Recognize differences.

Discuss: "The Way We Look-Differences"

Understand that there are strengths in differences.

Discuss: How can self pride be balanced with appreciation of other's talents.

Accept the differences.

ACTIVITY:

- List the messages found in lyrics.

Discuss: What is the title telling us?

2. Accept the differences.

ACTIVITY:

- Have student tell, write, or illustrate how SNEETCHES taught the acceptance of differences.
- Identify the differences in people and explain how each difference enriches us.

3. We Can Help Each Other Value Differences

Discuss: "Disabilities"

ACTIVITY:

- Invite someone from an organization to sensitize students to disabilities.
- Recognize those things all of us share in common.

Discuss: How each one of us is unique and valuable.

4. Understand how words can hurt or can make us feel good.

Discuss: How can we learn more about ourselves and each other so that we can get along?

Discuss: "Mixing In" How can you be yourself and get along with others?

Understand that feelings are your own, but some, such as feeling sorry for people who do terribly bad things, are wrong.

Discuss: Differences and Similarities:

- "Sometimes We Feel Afraid of Difference"
- "Our Experiences and Feelings Are Different"
- "We Share Some Experiences and Feelings"

Discuss: Invite students to answer questions about a first day at school.

5. Understand his/her actions do affect self and others.

Discuss: "How Can I Tell?"

Student uses non-verbal communication and body language to communicate feelings.