

Down Syndrome Advocates in *Action*



BELONGING ACTIVITY

This activity aims to show how we are unique, but we are all people, we all have things in common and we are all part of the school community. Students can be seated at their desks or can sit on the floor in a circle.

Teacher: “I’m going to read some questions. If you answer “yes” to the questions, silently stand up off from your chair (or raise your hand). Look around to see who else is standing up. These people standing have some things in common with you. After each questions we will all sit before I read the next question.”

Sample Questions: Questions can be adjusted to the grade level and feel free to add any interests you know exist in the class:

- Who has brown eyes?
- Who likes to watch Husker sports?
- Whose favorite food is pizza?
- Does your family have a pet?
- Do you have brothers or sisters or both?
- Do you like video games?
- Whose favorite color is _____?
- Who loves math?
- Last question: Who goes to this (our) school?

All kids will stand---they all have something in common!

Let’s Talk About It: Did you notice that some students stood up at the same time? What does that mean? That means that they have things in common, likes and dislikes. Now we know more about our classmates, things that we might not have known if we just looked at them. By taking the time to get to know each other, we learn more than by just judging them by their looks. What did we learn from this discussion about friendship? What did you realize about the other students who stood up with you? We like the same things. We have those things in common. Can someone give me a specific example? Can you tell that you and some of your classmates share the same interests by just looking at them? No. How can we figure out if a person can be our friend or not?. We ask them questions. We get to know them.