



# START WITH RESPECT Autism Awareness Lesson Plans K-2

## OBJECTIVE

Talk about the meaning of the word “acceptance.”  
Students will list words describing what “acceptance” means to them.

## VOCABULARY

Acceptance

## SUPPLIES

Magazines  
Popsicle sticks  
Glue or tape  
Scissors  
Crayons

## INTRODUCTION

Tell students that acceptance means being okay with people the way they are.

### ACTIVITY 1

1. Students will each cut out one happy face and one sad face from a magazine.
2. Each face will be glued/taped onto a Popsicle stick.
3. The teacher will read various scenarios to the students and ask them to hold up the Popsicle stick showing how they feel after each sentence.

#### Examples:

“I see that you like cars. Would you like to talk to me about them?”

“You can’t play with us because you don’t have brown hair.”

“Ms. Smith, sometimes I see Joey on the playground. Can you show me some games I can play with him?”

“I don’t understand you so I am going to stay away from you.”

**End with:** How would you feel if someone didn’t accept you because you are different?

### ACTIVITY 2

1. Tell the students: April is Autism Awareness Month.  
  
Autism is something that makes kids different just like hair color and favorite foods and hobbies do.
2. Read a book about autism to the class. A list of age appropriate books can be found by visiting, [www.autismnj.org/hub](http://www.autismnj.org/hub)
3. Ask the students to name words that show acceptance and list them on the board. I can show acceptance by being:  
  
Kind | Understanding | Friendly | Nice
4. Have students choose a word to fill in the blank on the attached puzzle piece.
5. Students can decorate their puzzle piece and cut it out.  
Puzzle pieces can hang on bulletin boards or in the classroom.



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