

Grade 1

Health Objective 3.04

Conclude that different people have different abilities and summarize the benefits of diversity.

Language Arts Objective 4.06

Plan and make judgments about what to include in written products (e.g., narratives of personal experiences)

Materials Needed:

The Blue Ribbon Day by Katie Couric

Art paper

Beanbags

Strips of multicolored construction paper for personal quality chain

Focus:

Gather student into a large group or two smaller groups. Tell them they are going to play a game and if they can keep up they will get ten extra points for their grades. Start by randomly numbering the students. Do not count off around the circle. Number 1 should not be beside number 2, but rather across the circle from each other. Start by throwing in one beanbag. Number 1 must throw to number 2, who must throw to number 3 and so forth. As they get confident, throw in another beanbag and tell them to go faster. Add in as many beanbags as needed for the students to get confused. When the group seems overwhelmed or they start dropping the bags, stop the game.

- Ask the students how they feel?
- Was the activity fun once you started to get confused?
- Does this confusion mean that you are not smart?
- Does this change the kind of person you are?

Teacher Input:

Read *A Blue Ribbon Day*.

Ask students the following question:

1. How do you feel when you do really well on a test or make a team or win a game?
2. What about when you do poorly on a worksheet because you really do not understand?
3. Does this change the type of person you are?
4. Discuss how Carrie and Ellie have different abilities but that those abilities do not make one person better than the other.

Performance: Something you do to show someone else what you know or can do. Fulfillment is the act of performing, carrying out, achievement, or exhibit. (Examples: soccer games, piano recitals, spelling tests)

Personal worth: How you feel about yourself?

Honest, caring, hopeful, kind, mean, bully

(Examples: telling the truth, helping a younger sibling/parent, calling someone names.)

Practice & Assessment:

Activity 1

Give each student three strips of colorful construction paper. Ask students to write, using inventive spelling, three things that make them valuable people writing one quality on each strip.

Demonstrate how to create a paper chain with their strips, linking their three qualities together. As students begin to complete their mini chains, use extra strips of paper to link the mini chains together to create one long class chain. Have the students stand and hold the ever-growing chain as you link it together, until all are linked.

Once the entire chain is constructed and linked together, and all students are standing holding their portion, ask the class what this chain demonstrates. (The fact that all the students have talents and things that they do well or are unique to them) Hang the chain up in the room as a reminder that the students are all valuable.

Activity 2

Journal writing: Have students recall a time when they

- Did well during a performance or on a test
- Did poorly on a performance or test
- Helped a friend or told the truth

Ask them to write how this experience made them feel.