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THE IMPACT OF LEARNING ABOUT DIVERSITY AT A YOUNG AGE

"Diversity can affect psychosocial development during early childhood by helping children create positive self-images, form strong relationships with peers, and develop positive attitudes towards other children from both similar and different backgrounds. Teaching tolerance and acceptance in young people is essential to fostering their ability to believe that all groups of people are equally valuable."

-Christine VanDonge

Noodle.com

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Orange Kit: Family

Recommended Ages: 3 to 6
Concepts: Inclusion, acceptance, and kindness

ABOUT THIS KIT

The *Know Your Neighbor: Kindness Kit* is an exciting way to start conversations about equity, diversity, and inclusion with children from an early age. Children and their grown-ups are able to explore these concepts through media such as books, music, film, and toys, along with the activities provided in this brochure.

Please note: this kit must be returned to a staff member at the Kenai Community Library Location.



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This kit provides materials that allow children to explore diversity through appropriate toys, books, music, and television programming.

Kit Activities

The following activities are designed to give parents, teachers, and caregivers a starting point to teach children the importance of kindness and inclusion in a global world. Be the catalyst that helps the children in our community develop positive attitudes toward others regardless of background and become global and kind citizens. Also, it is important to incorporate diverse literature in your everyday routine, rather than making diversity a one time lesson. Use “teachable moments” to discuss the concepts of equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Equity - the quality of being fair and impartial.

Diversity - a range of people with various racial, ethnic, socioeconomic, and cultural backgrounds and various lifestyles, experience, and interests.

Inclusion - the practice of providing equal access to opportunities and resources for people who might otherwise be excluded or marginalized.



Please verify all parts are present before returning.

Kit Contents & Replacement Costs

Item Type	Description	Cost
Book	Between Us and Abuela by Mitali Perkins	\$15
Book	Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story by Kevin Maillard	\$17
Book	Looking for Bongo by Eric Velazquez	\$17
Book	We are Family by Patricia Hegarty	\$14
DVD	Sesame Street Celebrates Family	\$9
CD	Children Songs Around the World	\$16
Object	Education Pretend People	\$15
Object	My Family Builders Diversity Building Blocks	\$35
Object	Playmobil Family Car	\$27
Packaging & Processing Fee:		\$25
Total Kit Replacement Cost:		\$190

Activity one: Hide & Seek

Read *Looking for Bongo* by Eric Velasquez with your child. Talk about the book: Who is Bongo? Who has been taking Bongo? Now pick a good sized stuffed animal and take turns hiding it. Start easy and then begin to make your hiding places more challenging!

Activity two: Fry Bread

Together read *Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story* by Kevin Maillard. Use Kevin's Fry Bread recipe at the back of the book or your own special recipe to make some Fry Bread with your child!

Activity three: Kite Flying

Read *Between Us and Abuela* by Mitali Perkins with your child. Talk about what separated the grandchildren from their grandmother. Now make a kite together using a paper bag or plastic sheeting and try to fly it—like in the story!

Activity Four: Create a Family

Families come in all shapes, forms and sizes. Use the action figures to talk about the different make-ups of families around the globe.

Kit Activities

Activity Five: Road Trip

Pretend to go on a vacation using the *Playmobile Family Car* (Warning Choking Hazard—NOT for children under three). Let your child plan a trip. Where do they want to go? Imagine stopping at destinations like a gas station, the library, or a museum. Imagine meeting other families. What do they look like? Explore and discuss!

Activity Six: Diversity Building Blocks

Invite the entire family to have fun playing the *My Family Builders Diversity Building Blocks!* Have your child create people and talk about them.

Activity Seven: We Are Family

First read the book *We Are Family* by Patricia Hegarty to your child. Point out all the different families on each page! Now help your child draw a picture of your family.

Activity Eight: Listen and Dance

Listen to *Children Songs Around the World* together and watch videos of musical celebrations from around the world. Start and stop the music to have a Freeze Dance competition!

Activity Nine: Movie Night

Make it a Family Movie Night! Pop some popcorn, lay out a blanket and invite the family to enjoy *Sesame Street Celebrates Family!*

