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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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KENAI COMMUNITY LIBRARY



Yellow Kit: Learning & Growing

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

ABOUT THIS KIT

The *Know Your Neighbor: Kindness Kit* is an exciting way to encourage conversations, and promote opportunities for parents and children in our community to explore the beauty of diversity. People of all backgrounds are represented in the various materials provided. Moreover these kits are designed to encourage inclusion, acceptance and kindness.

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



KENAI COMMUNITY LIBRARY

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	The Day You Begin by Jaqueline Woodson	\$15
Book	All Are Welcome by Alexandra Penfold	\$12
Book	The Sandwich Swap by Queen Rania Al Abdullah	\$14
Book	The Way to School by Rosemary Mc Carney	\$15
DVD	Daniel the Tiger: Daniel Tries Something New	\$4
CD	Wheels on the Bus	\$9
Object	Education Pretend People	\$15
Object	Melissa and Doug Taco and Tortilla Set	\$21
Object	Playmobil School Bus	\$20
Packaging & Processing Fee:		\$25
Total Kit Replacement Cost:		\$150

Activity one: Read and Sing

Read the book *The Day you Begin* by Jaqueline Woodson to your child. Talk about why Angelina feels sad. Who becomes Angelina's friend? Together sing "Come to School" (Tune: *Farmer in the Dell*) with your child!

We like to come to school

We like to come to school

Our school is such a happy place

We like to come to school

(We like to raise our hands, we like to make new friends, we like to learn new things)

Activity two: All Are Welcome

Read *All Are Welcome* by Alexandra Penfold with your child. Discuss the ways in which the children at school are different and alike. Now help your child set up a pretend classroom with stuffed animals or other toys. ALL ARE WELCOME!

Activity Three: Enjoy a Meal

Begin by Reading *The Sandwich Swap* by Queen Rania Al Abdula with your child. Discuss how Salma and Lily resolve their differences. Prepare a pretend meal using the food playset provided, and discuss the significance of foods from other cultures.

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: The School Bus

Use the *Playmobil School Bus* (Warning Choking Hazard—NOT for children under three) to pick up children and take them to school. Build a school out of a cardboard box, paper, or a blanket.

Activity Six: Simon Says

Parents, do you remember any classic classroom games you used to play? If so, adapt them to play at home! Teach your child the game *Simon Says*, and talk about the importance of being a good listener.

Activity Seven: The Way to School

Read *The Way to School* by Rosemary McCarney together. Talk about how your child travels to school, and draw a picture of it together. Now have them draw a picture of how they would like to travel to school. Be creative!

Activity Eight: Listen and Dance

Sing and dance as you and your child listen to the *Wheels on the Bus* CD. Start and stop the music to have a Freeze Dance competition!

Activity Nine: Something New!

Together watch some of *Daniel the Tiger: Daniel Tries Something New*. What is something NEW that you and your child have tried recently? Think of something NEW you can do with your child and try it together!

These are just some suggestions to use the materials in this kit, but feel free to be creative with it. Make it your own, and have fun!