

A Special New Friend



Positive Ending

KEY CONCEPT/ DISADVANTAGE

Respect

OBJECTIVES

- To encourage empathy by recognising the feelings of others and responding with kindness.
- To demonstrate inclusive communication by engaging with peers of different abilities.
- To practice teamwork by including everyone in group activities.
- To understand the importance of advocating for peers who are facing social challenges.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION FOR THE POSITIVE ENDING

1. How do you think Giovanni felt when Luca invited him to play?
2. What can we do to make a new friend feel welcome in our classroom?
3. Have you ever felt excluded? How did you feel, and what would have helped you feel better?
4. What would you do if you saw someone being unkind to a classmate?
5. Imagine a new pupil comes into your class who doesn't speak your language. What could you do to include them?

SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Pupils can take part in a role play in which they act out different scenarios of inclusion and exclusion, developing empathy and problem-solving skills in a safe environment. They can also play the interactive online game **"Empathy" (Wordwall)**, which strengthens their empathy and kindness decision-making skills, and participate in a storytelling session with books such as **"Elmer the Elephant"** or **"The Invisible Boy"** to stimulate discussion and reflection on diversity and inclusion.

- <https://wordwall.net/resource/28046170/social-emotional/empathy>
- <https://www.elmer.co.uk/about-elmer/>
- <https://trudyludwig.com/my-books/the-invisible-boy/>

A Special New Friend



Negative Ending

KEY CONCEPT/ DISADVANTAGE

Respect

OBJECTIVES

- To recognise the negative effects of exclusion and social isolation.
- To recognise ways to support classmates who feel excluded or different.
- To understand the importance of speaking out against unkind behaviour.
- To develop empathy by reflecting on how their actions affect others.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR THE NEGATIVE ENDING

1. How do you think Giovanni felt when Luca didn't stand up for him?
2. What could Luca have done differently to make Giovanni feel included?
3. Have you ever experienced someone being excluded? What did you do?
4. How can we show kindness to someone who feels lonely?
5. How would you feel if you were in Giovanni's place?

SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Pupils can discuss in class real-life experiences of marginalisation and how to deal with it in order to strengthen their self-confidence and empathy. They can also participate in an art activity where they create posters promoting kindness and inclusion that reinforce the key values of the lesson and provide a visual reminder of the importance of empathy. As an example, teachers can use the **'Thinglink' platform** available in our **Digital Tools Collection**.

Inspiration:

- <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Inspirational-Posters-to-Teach-Care-and-Empathy-for-Others-2953667>
- <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/R-U-OK-Day-Teaching-Poster-Display-Building-Empathy-Mental-Health-FREEBIE-12165348>