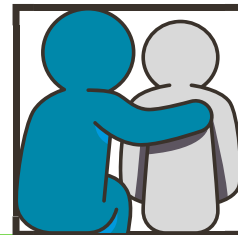


AN UNEXPECTED VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION

A story about Empathy



Positive Ending

KEY CONCEPT/ DISADVANTAGE

Empathy

OBJECTIVES

- To **foster empathy and understanding** and show autistic pupils' thoughts, feelings, and challenges, so as to encourage pupils to see the world from their perspective
- To **promote kindness and inclusion**, by highlighting the importance of welcoming and valuing everyone's unique abilities, demonstrating how acts of kindness and open-mindedness can create a more inclusive and supportive environment
- To **celebrate diversity and unique strengths**, by emphasising that everyone has different skills and ways of thinking, and that diversity within a team can be a strength.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION FOR ENDING 1

- What have you learnt about Patrick's strengths? How do they help the team?
- How does the team's attitude toward Patrick change by the end of the game?

SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Empathy Role-Play – Scenario Cards

Split the class into small groups and have them act out different scenarios where a classmate might feel excluded. Then, discuss how to respond with kindness and inclusion. You can use pickerwheel digital tool (<https://pickerwheel.com/tools/random-number-generator/>) for random selection of the number of the scenario for each group.

1. The Lonely Lunch 🍴

A pupil is sitting alone at lunch while others are chatting with friends.

→ Act out the scene and show how you can include them.

2. Left Out of the Game ⚽

A group is playing a game during the break, and one pupil asks to join, but no one answers.

AN UNEXPECTED VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION

A story about EMPATHY



Positive Ending

KEY CONCEPT/
DISADVANTAGE

Empathy

SUGGESTIONS
FOR
ADDITIONAL
RESOURCES

→ How can you make sure everyone feels included?

3. The Last Pick 🤔

A pupil is always chosen last for group activities. They look sad.

→ Show a way to make them feel welcome and valued.

4. No Seat at the Table 🪑

A pupil walks into the classroom and can't find a seat with their classmates.

→ What can others do to make space for them?

5. Ignored in a Conversation 🗣️

A pupil tries to join a conversation, but no one listens.

→ How can you make sure everyone's voice is heard?

6. Different Interests 🎨

One pupil loves to draw, but others are only talking about sports.

→ Act out a way to include their interests in the conversation.

7. New Student Nervousness 📖

A new pupil is standing alone, unsure of where to go.

→ What can you do to help them feel welcome?

8. Birthday Party Exclusion 🎂

A pupil finds out that most of their classmates were invited to a party, but they weren't.

→ How can you show kindness and support?

9. Unfair Teams 🏀

A game is being played, but one pupil always gets left on the weaker team.

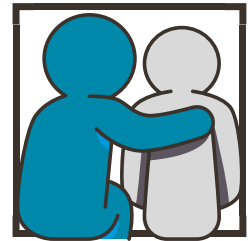
→ How can you make sure teams are fair and inclusive?

10. Language Barrier 🌍

A classmate speaks a different language and struggles to understand a game's rules.

AN UNEXPECTED VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION

A story about EMPATHY



Positive Ending

KEY CONCEPT/
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SUGGESTIONS
FOR
ADDITIONAL
RESOURCES

→ How can you help them feel included and understood?

Strengths & Differences Chart – Have pupils list their own strengths and challenges. Then, discuss how working together helps everyone succeed.

Team Word Game – Play a vocabulary game like the one in the story, but mix up teams so everyone collaborates with different classmates.

Letter to Patrick – Ask pupils to write a short note to Patrick, encouraging him and recognising his talents.

Additional Resources

- **Books:**

- All My Stripes: A Story for Children with Autism by Shaina Rudolph & Danielle Royer
- Rules by Cynthia Lord (for older kids)

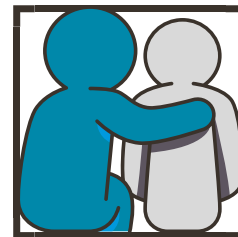
- **Videos:**

- "Amazing Things Happen" – A short animated video explaining autism in a kid-friendly way:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ezv85LMFx2E&ab_channel=AmazingThingsProject
- Sesame Street's Julia – A character with autism introduced to promote understanding and inclusion:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dKCdV20zLMs&ab_channel=SesameStreet

- **Guest Speaker Idea:** Invite a special education teacher or an advocate to talk about autism and inclusion in the classroom.

AN UNEXPECTED VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION

A story about EMPATHY



Negative Ending

KEY CONCEPT/ DISADVANTAGE

Empathy

OBJECTIVES

- To understand the impact of exclusion, by helping pupils recognise how exclusion affects individuals emotionally and socially.
- To build empathy and reflection, by encouraging pupils to reflect on their own actions and how they can be more inclusive in the future.
- To recognise and value differences, by teaching pupils that everyone has unique strengths and that diversity makes teams and friendships stronger.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION FOR ENDING 1

1. Why do you think some classmates are uncomfortable with Patrick's behaviour in class?
2. How do you think Patrick feels when his classmates don't want him in the team?
3. How would you feel if you were in Patrick's place? What would you want others to do?

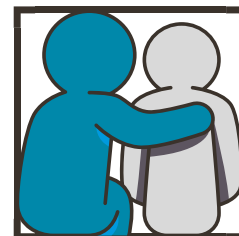
SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Books:

- *Just Ask!: Be Different, Be Brave, Be You* by Sonia Sotomayor – A book that celebrates different abilities and encourages inclusion.
- *A Boy Called Bat* by Elana K. Arnold – A story about an autistic boy and his experiences in school.
- *A Friend Like Simon* by Kate Gaynor (Story about a boy with autism but promotes inclusion)
- *We're All Wonders* by R.J. Palacio – A simple, powerful book about empathy and seeing the beauty in differences.

AN UNEXPECTED VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION

A story about EMPATHY



Negative Ending

KEY CONCEPT/
DISADVANTAGE

Empathy

SUGGESTIONS
FOR
ADDITIONAL
RESOURCES

Videos:

- “The Present” – A short animated film about empathy and inclusion.
- “Amazing Things Happen” – A child-friendly animation explaining autism.
- Sesame Street’s Julia – Episodes featuring Julia, a Muppet with autism, promoting understanding.

Activities:

- Reflection Journal – Ask pupils to write or draw how they would feel if they were Patrick.
- Story Rewrite – Let pupils change the ending of the story to make it more positive.
- Appreciation Circle – Each pupil says something positive about a classmate to highlight unique talents.
- Guest Speaker or Autism Awareness Activity – Invite someone to share real-life experiences of autism and inclusion.
- ACTION Flipcards - game in Genially platform available in our Digital Tools Collection.

<https://view.genially.com/67e4cf6d5538d88a6b36ce26/interactive-content-action-empathy-flipcards>