

The Arc of Lancaster County
630 Janet Avenue
Lancaster PA 17601

“We believe that all people have gifts and challenges and that all people have value.”

ABILITY AWARENESS TRAINING for Elementary Schools

Overall goal: To provide information that will allow all students to be accepted and included in their community

Student outcomes:

- Experience examples that show all people have abilities
- Experience people-first language
- Identify ways to include all members of a school community in work and play
- Increase the confidence of all students in interacting together

Grade Level Books and Themes:

- **Kindergarten** – “Friends at School” (30 minutes)
Every person has things that are easy to do or hard to do. All kinds of people can find different ways to accomplish hard things. Helping each other makes it easier.
- **First Grade** – “All Kinds of Friends, Even Green” (30 – 40 minutes)
Everyone wants and needs friends. Learn how to make a new friend, no matter how different that person may first seem.
- **Second Grade** – “We Can Do It” (30-40 minutes)
Having a disability doesn’t mean you can’t do anything. You can have fun, enjoy school, be a part of a family, and work hard.
- **Third Grade** – “Arnie and the New Kid” (45 minutes)
Words can hurt – teasing hurts. People with disabilities are often targets of teasing. Students will take part in disability simulations to get a feel of what it means to have a body part that doesn’t work quite the same as they are used to.
- **Fourth Grade** – “Don’t Laugh at Me” (45 minutes)
Anyone can be a target of a bully, but people with disabilities are often called names and made fun of. Students will be introduced to People-First language as a new way to identify someone with a disability.
- **Fifth Grade** – “What’s Wrong with Timmy?” (45 minutes)
Can you judge a book by its cover? Can you tell about a person just by looking at him? See examples of famous people with disabilities; discover in what ways all people are alike.
- **Sixth Grade** – “In Jesse’s Shoes” (45 minutes)
Walk a mile in someone else’s shoes – how about if that person has a disability? Can you learn empathy? Can you stop and think before you act?

Contact: The Arc Office at 394-5251