

# Inclusion info talk

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To:Christine Kim <Christine\_Kim@lawndalesd.net>; Rachele Trigueros <Rachele\_Trigueros@lawndalesd.net>;

Hi -

Here is what I was thinking about discussing with your kiddos regarding inclusion. Do you have any suggestions? thanks!!

## Special Needs and making new friends info:

1. **Be smart:** Remember that his disability is only part of him. Every person is different. Accept your classmate for who he is. Learn about his special needs. Also, know that you can't catch the disability. It is OK to ask questions. Talk to your teacher or to another trusted adult if there is something you don't understand.
2. **Be patient:** Some of her behaviors may bother you. Your friend is not trying to annoy you. She might need more time to answer your questions or help to finish an activity. Kids with special needs sometimes think differently and act differently (as we all do!). If your friend does something that offends you, calmly explain to her what bothered you or talk to an adult.
3. **Be inclusive:** Inclusive is a big word. It just means to invite your classmate to join in activities with you. Or offer to teach your friend how to play. Clear directions help everyone understand things better. Try not to be hurt if he says no.
4. **Be sensitive:** Join your friend in the activities he enjoys. Talk about topics that interest him. Maybe your friend really likes trains. It makes him feel good when you listen and appreciate the things he loves. Praise your friend for the things he likes.
5. **Be brave:** Children with special needs often are made fun of or bullied. Be brave and defend your classmate. If he is being teased or bullied, tell the teacher or another adult right away. It is never OK to bully another child. Sometimes kids with special needs have a harder time understanding sarcasm and jokes. Don't tease your friend. Don't allow others to tease him either.
6. **Be yourself:** If you are unsure of how to act around your friend, be yourself. Tell him what you like/dislike. Encourage your friend to be her/himself. No two people are the same. Some differences are just more noticeable.