

TOPIC Acceptance & Belonging

LEVEL Second Grade

THEME Acceptance Creates Diversity

LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the lesson, the students are expected to:

- Learn that we can accept others who look, sound and believe differently than we do.

MATERIALS

- Puzzle piece
- Acceptance Is My Superpower by Alicia Ortego
- Things I Love About Myself worksheet (one per student)
- Completed worksheet example
- Writing utensils

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- What does it mean to accept someone or something?
- Does accepting mean you have to agree or be the same?

CHECK-IN / WELCOME (5 MINUTES)

Say: "Today, we are going to talk about something very important: accepting others for who they are. In Aevidum, we say, 'I've got your back.' That means we care about each other and support each other, no matter what our differences are. Accepting someone doesn't change who we are. It adds to who we are. It makes our classroom more colorful, interesting, and kind. When we celebrate our differences, we make everyone feel like they belong."

Hold up a puzzle piece or a picture of a colorful puzzle.

Say: "Think of it like a puzzle. If all the pieces were the same, we wouldn't have a picture. But when each piece is different, they fit together perfectly and create something beautiful. That's what happens when we accept each other. Together, we make our class stronger."

GUIDED DISCUSSION / TOPIC INTRODUCTION (10 MINUTES)

Ask:

- "What does it mean to accept someone or something?"
- "Does accepting someone who does things differently or has different ideas or beliefs change who we are?"
- "Can anyone tell me what the word diversity means?"
 - Allow the students to provide answers without correcting or clarifying.

Say: Now let's read a book to help us understand what acceptance and diversity mean.

Read (or play a video of) "Acceptance Is My Superpower."

After reading the book, ask again:

- "What does diversity mean?"
- "How does diversity make our school a better place?"

ACTIVITY: THINGS I LOVE ABOUT MYSELF PUZZLE (20 MINUTES)**Instructions:**

- Give out the Things I Love About Myself worksheets.
- Say: "Accepting others starts with accepting ourselves. You'll see six puzzle pieces on your paper. In each puzzle piece, you'll draw or write something you love about yourself."
- Here are some ideas to get you thinking:
 - What is something you are good at?
 - What is something about your personality that you love?
 - What's your favorite hobby or sport?
 - What's something about your family or culture that's special to you?
 - What's a talent or skill you have?
 - What's something that makes you unique?
- Say: "For example, on my puzzle pieces I might write:"
 - 'I'm a good listener.'
 - 'I love to draw.'
 - 'I am kind to my friends.'
 - 'I can speak Spanish.'
 - 'I have curly hair.'
 - 'I'm good at solving puzzles.'"
 - Say: "Now, it's your turn! Think about six things you love about yourself. You can write them, draw them, or both. Take your time and be creative!"
- Circulate around the room, prompting students who are stuck by asking questions like:
 - "What's something you do that makes you proud?"
 - "What's something your friends or family like about you?"
 - "What's a hobby or activity you enjoy?"
 - "What makes you different from other people in a good way?"

WRAP-UP (5 MINUTES)

After most students finish, gather them back in a circle.

Ask: "Would anyone like to share one of their puzzle pieces and tell us something they love about themselves?" (Allow a few volunteers to share.)

Say: "Wow! Look at how many different, amazing things we shared! This shows us that our class is full of unique and wonderful people. When we celebrate what makes us different, we make our classroom stronger, kinder, and more fun. This is what Aavidum is all about: saying 'I've got your back' and celebrating each other just as we are!"