

**TOPIC**

Acknowledging & Recognizing

LEVEL

Third Grade

THEME

We Are All Special & We All Belong

LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- Recognize their individuality and appreciate the unique traits that make them who they are.
- Learn to celebrate their personal qualities and understand the value of the different members that make up their classroom community.

MATERIALS

- Whiteboard & markers
- "About Me" worksheet (one per student)
- Magazines, scissors, glue sticks
- Large poster paper (one per group)
- Crayons/markers

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- What does it mean to be unique?
- Why is it important to acknowledge what makes us special?
- Why is it important to notice and celebrate what makes others unique?
- How does acknowledging ourselves and others help create a sense of belonging in our classroom?

CHECK-IN / WELCOME (5 MINUTES)

Say: "Today in Aavidum, we're going to talk about something really important: acknowledging what makes us unique. First, let's think: What does it mean to be unique? Can anyone share one thing they think is special about themselves?"

- Call on 4 or 5 students. Write examples on the board: good at soccer, likes drawing, has curly hair, loves animals, etc.

Say: "I'm putting the word 'unique' on the board. What do you think it means?"

- Take responses. Guide toward: "It means being one of a kind."

Say: "In Aavidum, we say 'I've got your back.' Part of that means noticing and celebrating what makes each of us special. When we acknowledge what's unique about ourselves and others, it helps us feel proud, seen, and connected."

Ask:

- "Why do you think it's helpful to recognize the things that make you special?"
 - Take 2-3 answers: it makes you feel good, it builds confidence, it reminds you why you're important

GUIDED DISCUSSION / TOPIC INTRODUCTION (10 MINUTES)

Hand out "About Me" worksheets.

Say: "Now we're going to fill out our 'About Me' worksheets. This is a chance to think about the things that make YOU one of a kind!"

Say: "Let's look at the first question: 'My favorite activity is...' Think about something you love to do. Maybe it's reading, swimming, or playing games. Write or draw it in the first box."

CONTINUED GUIDED DISCUSSION / TOPIC INTRODUCTION (10 MINUTES)

Guide them through each prompt one at a time, giving examples and walking around to support.

- “Something I’m good at...” (examples: math, dancing, being a good friend)
- “What makes me happy...” (examples: family, music, recess)
- “A fun fact about me...” (examples: I can whistle, I have a pet turtle)

Say: “Now turn to a partner and share one or two things from your worksheet. Listen closely and celebrate what makes your partner unique. After sharing, give them an Aavidum High-Five and say: ‘I’ve got your back!’”

After partner sharing, ask 2 to 3 volunteers to share with the whole class.

ACTIVITY: UNIQUE COLLAGE (20 MINUTES)

Say: “Next, we’ll create ‘Unique Collages’ in small groups. Each group will get a big poster paper. You’ll use pictures from magazines, drawings, and words to show what makes your group unique, but make sure each person is represented!”

Divide students into small groups of 4 or 5.

Say: “Work together. Talk about what’s important to each of you and make sure to include something from every group member: a favorite food, sport, hobby, or even a word that describes you.”

Circulate to encourage teamwork and ensure every student contributes.

Each group briefly presents:

- “What’s one thing you included that makes your group unique?”
- “Why do these differences make your group interesting?”

WRAP-UP (5 MINUTES)

Say: “Let’s sit in a circle to close today’s lesson.

- What’s one new thing you learned about yourself today?
- What’s one new thing you learned about someone else?”
 - Call on 4 or 5 students.

Celebration Circle:

Say: “Now, we’re going to end with a ‘Celebration Circle.’ When it’s your turn, share one positive thing you learned about a classmate today that you didn’t know before. Then give them an Aavidum High-Five!”

- Go around the circle quickly.

Say: “Today we learned that acknowledging what makes us unique, and recognizing those things in others helps us feel proud of ourselves and connected to our classmates. Aavidum is all about having each other’s backs, and that means celebrating what makes every single one of us special!”