



Step 1: Icebreakers

Activity:

Name Game:

Take turns introducing yourself with by saying your name and then an animal that starts with the same first letter.

"Daniel Dog"



Birthday Bash:

Get up and line up in order according to your birthdays!



Ball Toss:

Pick a category, and toss the ball to someone else! Now they have to name something in that category and so forth.



Step 2: Similarities and Differences

Class Talk: All Students Participate

Look around! What are some differences between your classmates and you? What are some similarities?

Differences

Similarities

If a person is different than you in some way, like a grandparent who is a lot older, is it fair to think that they are different than you in every way? Why?

Is it possible to be friends with someone who is different than you? What is good about being friends with someone different than you?

Activity: Get to Know You Activity

Pair up with a buddy and complete the cards together!



Step 3: How does Best Buddies help with differences?

Some people with differences might.....



learn



think



hear and talk



make friends



move

....differently.

Class Talk: All Students Participate

What are some ways of doing the above suggestions differently?

Do you think it could be difficult for people with differences to make friends? Why?
Best Buddies can help with creating friendships !!

What do you know Best Buddies? What would you like to learn about Best Buddies?

I know...

I want to learn...

Now, let's learn about Best Buddies!

Look at the slides on the screen about Best Buddies. Advocacy and Inclusion.



Step 4: Advocacy and Inclusion

Class talk: All Students Participate

What is advocacy?

Advocacy is speaking up for yourself and others

Here are some examples:

Susie sits at the back of the room during math class. Lately, she's been having trouble seeing the numbers on the board.

She advocates for herself by asking her teacher if she can be moved to closer to the board.



Carlos has noticed that one of his classmates, Andrew, is being picked on by some of the older kids at the school.

Carlos advocates for Andrew by alerting the school counselor of the situation.



What do you do everyday to stand up for yourself and others? Can you think of some examples?

What is inclusion?

Inclusion is where every person can be included and participate fully in every part of an activity or service

Here are some examples:

All the kids at the birthday party are playing a big game of charades! But Issa and Armin just got there and they don't speak english so they can't play. The kids decide to go outside and play tag instead so that everyone can play!



The class is choosing a class president. The teacher wants to be inclusive of all students. She waits until the next day when no one is absent to have the all students vote for a class president.





Step 4: Advocacy and Inclusion

Why are advocacy and inclusion important?

Advocacy and inclusion are good for all students. You can grow, be more respectful, and understanding when you play, learn, and interact with students of all abilities and backgrounds. Best Buddies is a fun way to advocate for inclusion and increase your circle of friends!

A great way to advocate for inclusion is to tell people about Best Buddies and the friends that you have made through Best Buddies.

Step 5: Write, Pair and Share

Activity: Talking Points Worksheet

Pair up with another student and fill out the talking points worksheet! After you finish the worksheet, practice sharing what you wrote with your partner. You'll have to share with the whole class when you're done.

Step 6: Art Time

Activity: Create a banner or a group art work

Make sure you include key words you learned today and some of the talking points!

Step 7: Picture time

Activity: Smile for the camera!