



# It's Okay to Be Different in the Classroom



## Activities

Make a list of things that are okay to be and are okay to do. Illustrate the list and hang on a wall/bulletin board.

Make a collage of Todd Parr art by photocopying or drawing different parts of his illustrations (a hand, a tail, glasses, etc.) and then reassemble the pieces to show that "it's okay to be different."

## Discussion Topics

### It's okay to be different.

What makes you different?

What do you like/dislike about being different?

### It's okay to have different kinds of friends.

Describe how your friends are different from you.

What do you like/dislike about their differences?

### It's okay to have wheels.

What are some other kinds of disabilities?

Do you know anyone with a disability?

Describe something you could do to help a person with a disability.

It's okay to do something nice for someone.

It's okay to do something nice for yourself.

Describe the difference between doing something nice for yourself and doing something nice for someone else.

What are some nice things you have done for yourself?

What are some nice things you have done for someone else?

It's okay to dance by yourself.

Describe something you did by yourself.

How did you feel when you were finished?

It's okay to be proud of yourself.

Describe something that you are proud of.

It's okay to talk about your feelings.

How do you feel today?

Are you feeling different than you did yesterday?

What makes your feelings change?

It's okay to eat macaroni and cheese in the bathtub.

What are some silly things you have done?

## Other Todd Parr Books in the Classroom

### Do's and Don'ts

Discuss why we need "Do's and Don'ts." How do they help us in everyday life?

Do you ever want to change "Don'ts" to "Do's"? How would you change them? And why?

Make a list of "School Do's and Don'ts" or "Playground Do's and Don'ts." Draw pictures of your ideas.

### The Best Friends Book

How are your best friends like you/different from you?

Why are your best friends special to you?

Make a list of things best friends should do for each other.

Draw a picture of your best friend(s).

### Things That Make You Feel Good/ Things That Make You Feel Bad

What makes you feel good?

What makes you feel bad?

Draw a picture of something that makes you feel good or bad.

### This Is My Hair

What kind of hair do you have?

What would you look/feel like with a different hairstyle/hair type?

Draw a picture of your hair.