

The background features a light teal gradient with a large white circle in the center. Three stylized fish are scattered around the circle: one in the top left, one in the bottom left, and one in the middle right. The fish in the middle right is wearing a yellow crown. The bottom of the page is decorated with stylized blue and cyan waves.

SMARTYPANTS AND THE SWORDFISH

POST SHOW GUIDE (INCLUSIVITY)

INTRODUCTION TO DIVERSITY



In SmartyPants and the Swordfish, you might realise that some performers might look or move differently. This is because people come in all shapes, sizes, and abilities, and these differences make our world interesting and unique.

WHAT IS DISABILITY?

Disability is a condition that may affect the way a person moves, communicates, or learns, but it doesn't define who they are as a person.

PHYSICAL DISABILITY (PD)

People with a Physical Disability might not move around as easily as you do. They might need a little help or more time to do things like walking or picking up toys.

Examples of PD:

- Spinal Cord Injury
- Muscular Dystrophy
- Cerebral Palsy
- Acquired Brain Injury

SENSORY DISABILITY (SD)

Sensory Disability includes vision or hearing impairment. Some people might only see a little or not at all, and some might not hear well or not at all.

They use tools like white canes to feel their way around, or wear hearing aids to hear better. They also have their ways to read and communicate, like making gestures with their hands or touching bumpy dots called Braille.



INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY (ID)

People with Intellectual Disability might talk and play differently, need more time to learn things, or think and solve problems differently. There are friends who take longer to start talking, or they might not learn things as fast as you, and that is okay.

Some examples of ID:

- Global Developmental Delay
- Down Syndrome
- Fragile X Syndrome

AUTISM

Everyone with Autism is unique, and they see the world in their own ways. They may be slightly different in how they play, learn or express themselves. They may not look at you directly in the eye, and may speak in a flat tone, but they are always friendly.

They may be sensitive to bright lights as well as loud voices and sounds. Be considerate and care for them when they look stressed.

EMPATHY AND RESPECT

People with disabilities may face challenges in certain areas, but they also have unique abilities and strengths, just like all of us.

It is important to treat everyone with empathy and respect, regardless of our differences, so that we build a kind, inclusive and understanding place for everyone.



HOW CAN WE BE MORE INCLUSIVE?



In SmartyPants and the Swordfish, one puppeteer, Filmer, has difficulty moving one arm. We must therefore plan more time for him to change into his costume. He also has an actor buddy to help him button up his shirt.

Filmer now no longer has to struggle alone for almost 10 minutes to get into costume. This is one way we can be more inclusive.

INCLUSIVITY ACTIVITY

Let's use the story of **The Tortoise and the Hare!**

Once upon a time, there was a Hare who was proud and kept showing off how fast he could hop. Tired of that, the Tortoise challenged him to a race. All the animals in the forest came to watch.

The race began. Hare hopped down the road but then stopped to rest. He looked back at Tortoise and laughed,

"How do you expect to win this race when you are walking along at your slow, slow pace?"

INCLUSIVITY ACTIVITY

So Hare laid down and fell asleep, thinking, "There is plenty of time to relax." Slowly, Tortoise walked and walked.

He kept going until he came to the finish line. The animals who were watching cheered loudly for Tortoise and woke up Hare.

Hare was surprised but it was too late, as Tortoise had crossed the finish line.

INCLUSIVITY ACTIVITY

Moral of the story – Slow and steady wins the race.

But something is not right.

- Why must the Tortoise win after being laughed at?
- Why must the Hare lose because he was too proud?
- Can we make this a better race and be more inclusive?

LET'S CREATE A NEW STORY!

Once upon a time, a fast-hopping Hare saw that Tortoise walked slowly, and was being laughed at by the animals in the forest. So, Hare thought of an idea and arranged for a race.

When the race started, Hare did not move. Instead, he asked the Tortoise to start walking. He also kept on encouraging Tortoise, “Don’t give up! Don’t give up!”

LET'S CREATE A NEW STORY!



When Hare saw that Tortoise was almost near the finish line, he started hopping. The timing was so good that Hare and Tortoise crossed the finish line at the same time! All the animals cheered and clapped. Everyone learned a big lesson.

LET'S CREATE A NEW STORY!

From this version, we learnt that by doing together and giving more, everyone wins the race!

In real life, we are all different and special, and we can be inclusive, so we leave no one behind.



**THANK YOU FOR WATCHING
SMARTYPANTS AND THE SWORDFISH!**

Co-presented by

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