

Upper Key Stage 2 – Lesson Plan for Down syndrome Awareness

This presentation has been created by Down Syndrome UK, registered charity number 1184564

It is available for general use but would ask that if a school has a member(s) who has/have Down syndrome, or there are close relatives of a young person with Down syndrome, that you seek permission of the Parents/Carers first.

We hope you find this lesson plan and presentation informative and insightful

We would welcome your feedback: info@positiveaboutdownsyndrome.co.uk

Please note that this presentation contains links to YouTube so please ensure you can access beforehand

Lesson Plan – Upper KS2 – Y5 and Y6

World Down Syndrome Day (WSD) is observed on March 21st however Down syndrome Awareness Month includes the whole of October. Across the world people run events to raise public awareness, advocating for the rights and inclusion of people with Down syndrome. World Down Syndrome Day is on March 21st, chosen to represent the 3 copies of the 21st chromosome present in individuals with Down syndrome.

Aims:

To realise that children with Down Syndrome are more alike than different.

To identify similarities and differences in people.

To have some understanding of what Down Syndrome is.

Resources:

Teacher PowerPoint and access to YouTube
Whiteboard and pen

Resource 1 – Quiz sheet
Resource 2 – Teacher dictogloss sheet
Resource 3 - True / False sheet

Timing:

10 mins

Activity:

Introduction:

Children answer quiz questions about themselves on resource 1.

Children then spend a few minutes going around the classroom, trying to find other children with the same answers as them.

Write name of person with same answer on their sheet.

Slide 3 - Read Just Like You from PowerPoint

Slide 3 - Watch “Chloe explains Down’s syndrome” Video from PowerPoint

Give children time to reflect.

Discuss why it is okay to be different and discuss common needs.

15 mins

Main Lesson:

Introduce the term Down Syndrome.

	<p>Slides 5-10 - Show PowerPoint and briefly explain what Down Syndrome is. While there are some differences in children with Down syndrome there are many similarities too. Whilst children with Down Syndrome share some physical characteristics, they look more like their families than each other.</p> <p>Slide 10 - Speech activity: Ask the children to put their thumbs in their mouths and to explain to each other what they had for breakfast and what they would like for dinner tonight.</p> <p>Slide 11 - Play dictogloss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use Resource 2 - teacher sheet – dictogloss. • Read out the text. • Children to work in pairs or small groups and note key points/vocabulary on whiteboards. • Each group then shares key findings.
<p>15 mins</p>	<p>Activity: Slides 12-28 Exploring myths: Children cut up Resource 3 - True/False sheet. In pairs, children to put statements into 2 piles, True or False.</p> <p>Use PowerPoint to go through each statement leading discussion and generate thinking about common misconceptions about Down Syndrome.</p> <p>Talk about how people with Down Syndrome are more alike than different.</p>
<p>10 mins</p>	<p>Conclusion:</p> <p>Slide 29 - Play video clip of The Hiring Chain</p> <p>Slide 30 - Closing questions: Why it is important to be aware of what Down Syndrome is?</p> <p>What could we do in the school and wider community to include people with Down syndrome?</p>

Thank you for supporting Down Syndrome UK and Positive About Down Syndrome with raising awareness.

Resource 1

Quiz Sheet

Question	Your answer	People with same answer
What is your favourite TV program?		
What are you most scared of?		
Who is your favourite author?		
What is your favourite pizza topping?		
What do you want to be when you grow up?		
What is your shoe size?		
What is your favourite sport?		
If you could have a superpower, what would it be?		

Resource 2

Teacher dictogloss

Did you know that your body is made up of billions of cells, which are too small to see without a strong microscope?

Inside most of those cells are chromosomes, which are thread-like strands.

These carry the plan which tells our bodies how to grow.

Chromosomes come in pairs - we get half from our mum, half from our dad.

People without Down Syndrome have 46 chromosomes (23 pairs).

Down syndrome is caused by an extra chromosome in your cells – there is a 3rd copy on 21st chromosome.

So, people with Down syndrome have 47 chromosomes.

Having the extra chromosome 21 makes the growing plan work differently to other people.

Sometimes people with Down syndrome learn in a different way and their bodies sometimes work differently too.

People with Down syndrome are different from you in some ways but are like you in many ways too.

People with Down syndrome are good at some things and must work hard at others.

They can play, dance, learn, be in a relationship, get a job and live on their own - just like you.

Resource 3

True / False – Pupil Sheet

Children with Down syndrome can't go to school.
People with Down syndrome are always happy.
People with Down syndrome can work.
Children with Down syndrome like the same things as other children.
You can catch Down syndrome.
People with Down syndrome can't get married.
People with Down syndrome can't play sport.
People with Down syndrome can drive.