

Aloha Peace Project



Puppet Play: Acceptance

The Puppets act out how it feels to be different from others and then how it feels when you are accepted and included as a friend. The world is full of differences. Our differences make us special and unique. This puppet play focuses on feeling of self-worth, emphasizing how we are each unique and special in our own way. When we feel valuable and respect the value of others, we form the base for compassionate behavior and habits.

Props:

- 2 puppets (one with blue hair or some characteristic that makes him different)
- a puppet hat

Tony: *(Sitting off to the side by himself, head looking down and sad)*

Nicole: *(Comes in singing, stops, looks at Tony, looks away and then looks back at Tony)*
Tony you are looking sort of **sad** today.

Tony: Well, I'm feeling sort of **sad** today. I just **realized** I am the only one here with **blue** hair.

Nicole: *(Look closely at Tony's hair)* Your hair sure is blue, and, let me see *(look out at the children)* is there anyone else here with blue hair? I guess you **are** the only one here with blue hair, but you are making me feel **bad** by sitting there and being so **sad**.

Tony: Then don't **look** at me. *(pause)* You know **everyone** will laugh at me because I have blue hair. I'm not going to have any friends or any fun from now on.

Nicole: Oh **really**, Tony. You are taking this much too seriously. Do you think all of my friends have to look just like I do? Lets ask the kids...*(to the children)* Do all of **your** friends look just like you?

Tony: But I **feel** so different from everyone with my blue hair.

Nicole: *(Scoot a couple of jumps closer to Tony.)* Don't you know that some of my friends are lots **bigger** than me and even though I can't do everything they do they are still my friends.

Tony: Yes, **bigger** than you is OK. But this is **different** and I feel real sad.

Nicole: *(Scoot a couple of jumps closer to Tony.)* Don't you know that some of my friends have real light skin and some have darker skin and it doesn't matter at all to any of us and we all can have fun together.

Tony: I do know that we are all different in some way but it just seems like **blue** hair

is something everyone will see and laugh at. Wait just a minute, I think I have a great idea. (*ducks down & puts on a hat*) I will just hide under this hat. This is a great idea and I feel better already.

Nicole: (*Looks at Tony in the hat*) Tony, I don't think you get it at all. We don't have to hide because of our differences. We should accept them and be proud because they make us unique. Of course everyone **will** see your blue hair but our **differences** make us **special**. Take off that silly hat and come out where I can see the real you.

Tony: (*Takes off the hat*)

Nicole: I'm thinking you look real special and I'm thinking I would like you for my friend. (*To the children*) How many of you would like to be Tony's friend? Does it matter to you that he is different? (*To Tony*) So how does that make you feel?

Tony: (*To the children*) Really? You **really** want **me** for a friend? (*To Nicole*) It makes me feel a whole lot better. It makes me feel **happy** and **accepted**.

Nicole: So you will forget about hiding because you are different and you're not sad and we can all be friends?

Tony: Absolutely! And thanks for **understanding**.

Discussion:

Why was Tony feeling sad? (*he had blue hair and was different*)

Was it good for Tony to tell how he felt? He used the "I" message by saying, "When I am different, I feel sad." This lets us tell others how we feel.

When you are feeling sad does it help to have someone to talk to? How does it help? (*it helps to talk about it, someone might have some good ideas for you, you know you're not the only one feeling that way*)

Was Nicole a good friend to Tony? How did she help him? (*she noticed him being sad, she listened to him, she had some good things to say to him about being special*)

She was a Peacemaker.

When you are sad how do you look? Now how would you look if a friend cared about you and said, "Are you OK? Can I help you?" How would you feel? Show me how you would look. (*happy*) Sometimes our face shows how we feel and when someone cares about us it makes us feel happy.

We all have our own special:

- feelings
- looks (like our hair, face, skin color)
- things we say to others

We are all *unique*. Is this a new word to you? It means we are all different and special. When we show we care and help others to feel special we are peacemakers. Is everyone in this class a peacemaker?