

Disability Awareness Day Outline

The purpose of this event is to let school age children see and experience their little corner of the world in a similar way that friends with disabilities might experience life. Something that may seem simple to someone without a disability can be a challenge for someone with physical or cognitive disabilities. These daily tasks might include getting from point A to point B on your own; telling someone your name or writing down your food order; finding, opening, and getting through a door. These can present varying degrees of difficulty for people with different disabilities. Without a disability, we can easily take these daily actions for granted.

Large Group Presentation:

Ideally, a Disability Awareness Day would begin with a large group presentation. This could include a speaker, video or PowerPoint presentation (available for download from Voice of Care).

Disability Awareness Activity Stations:

Participants can then be separated into groups of 7 or fewer to rotate through Disability Awareness Activity Stations, with a suggested time limit of 8 minutes per station. This would allow a class of 35 to rotate through the full 8 stations in just over an hour (instructions and materials are available for download from Voice of Care).

Additional Activities:

If additional activities are needed due to class size, it is easy to add story time with an age appropriate book about friends with special needs or living with disabilities.

Downloadable materials and resources for Disability Awareness Days are available for free at voiceofcare.org.