

Inclusion Thought of the Week!

Week of November 17, 2014

November 20th is Universal Children's Day

The United Nation's Universal Children's Day was established in 1954 and is celebrated on November 20th each year to promote international togetherness, awareness among children worldwide, and improving children's welfare. November 20th is an important date as it is the date in 1959 when the UN General Assembly adopted the Declaration of the Rights of the Child. It is also the date in 1989 when the UN General assembly adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Since 1990, Universal Children's Day also marks the anniversary of the date that the UN General Assembly adopted both the declaration and the convention on children's rights.



Many youth advocacy organizations on November 20th bring awareness to stopping violence against children!

Find out more information at:

<http://www.un.org/en/events/childrenday/> and
www.unicef.org/violencestudy



Friendship bracelet

Participants begin by moving around the room saying hello to each other as if they are best friends with that person. They are invited to think about whether they said hello in a different way because they imagined they were best friends. This leads them to think about what makes a best friend. Participants go on to make a friendship bracelet and as they use different colored strands they talk about the different 'strands' of being a friend, and the characteristics of a good friend. The group explores what a good friend might do if they are worried about their friend and how they can access support safely. The participants explore what they would like in a respectful relationship in the future.

Housework

This activity uses household chores to explore gender roles and gender stereotyping. Participants are invited to try out a number of household 'tools' such as a broom, a telephone, a cloth, a spanner, a paintbrush or a saucepan. They are then invited to put the tools into a 'girl' pile or a 'boy' pile depending on who is most likely to use them. Are the piles equal? Are there any tools in a middle pile (for either girls or boys to use)? How can we make sure that there are more tools in the middle pile? Who does the housework in the home? Are household tasks equally shared out between girls and boys, men and women? Do women and girls get teased for doing 'boy' jobs, and do boys and men get teased for doing 'girl' jobs? Are some jobs seen as less important than others? Participants will learn that all household jobs are important and that it is important that they are shared out equally.

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Questions, comments, suggestions? Email or call the inclusion team:

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