



The Jewish Special Needs/Disability Inclusion Consortium of Greater Philadelphia

Presents

Jewish Disability Awareness & Inclusion Month (JDAIM) Lesson Plans



Jewish Learning Venture innovates programs that help people live connected Jewish lives.

261 Old York Road, Suite 720 / Jenkintown, PA 19046 / 215.320.0360 / jewishlearningventure.org

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INTRODUCTION

Jewish Disability Awareness & Inclusion Month (JDAIM) is a unified national initiative during the month of February that aims to raise disability awareness and foster inclusion in Jewish communities worldwide.

In the Philadelphia area, the Jewish Special Needs/Disability Inclusion Consortium works to expand opportunities for families of students with disabilities. The Consortium is excited to share these comprehensive lesson plans with schools, youth groups, and early childhood centers in our area.

We appreciate you making time for teachers to use these lessons during February—or whenever it's convenient for you.

For additional resources, please email me at gkaplan-mayer@jewishlearningventure.org or call me at 215-320-0376.

Sincerely,

Gabrielle Kaplan-Mayer,
Chief Program Officer

JDAIM Lesson Plan: Grades 4 – 5

Created by Faye Benshetler, Inclusion Coordinator at Beth or and Temple Sinai

Film: Including Samuel by Daniel Habib

Synopses of story: In Including Samuel, we meet a family whose son has cerebral palsy. The family makes great efforts to include their son in every facet of their life. In Including Samuel, we discover the ways in which people in Samuel's community treat him with respect. We also see the barriers to inclusion that make Samuel and his family feel like they are not being treated with respect. The film can help us imagine how we would like to be treated if we had cerebral palsy or another disability.

Objectives:

- Students will become familiar with the Jewish value of *v'ahavta l'reiacha kamocha* (Love your neighbor as yourself).
- Students will consider the impact on a family when a child has a disability.
- Students will learn the terms disability and cerebral palsy.

Jewish Value:

- *V'ahavta l'reiacha kamocha*: Love your neighbor as yourself. The Jewish value of *v'ahavta l'reiacha kamocha* teaches us that we should respect one another and treat every human being as we wish to be treated.

Materials:

The documentary: Including Samuel by Daniel Habib (can be downloaded from Amazon: https://www.amazon.com/Including-Samuel-Dan-Habib/dp/B0052WC5MW/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1482166163&sr=8-1&keywords=including+samuel)

The video runs 60 minutes. For the purpose of the lesson, portions of the documentary that involve other people with disabilities can be skipped

Sections to be skipped- approximately min 6:16-9:05; 16:28-25:55; 31-43; 49-51

You can also watch a movie clip here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xfg1pswiOgM>

Introduction (5 minutes)

SAY: "Today we are going to be thinking about a Jewish value called *v'ahavta l'reiacha kamocha*. When we say *v'ahavta l'reiacha kamocha*, we mean that we should love our neighbors as ourselves.

1. How do you like to be treated? (With respect, with dignity, included in fun activities.)
2. When we treat someone the way we want to be treated, we include them and make them feel important. When we include someone, we are being **inclusive**.



We should try to live in a way that is inclusive so that we do not leave others out or make them feel small and ignored.

Disability Introduction:

It is important to be **inclusive** of all people, even if they have different challenges than us, or if they look or act differently from us. Everyone wants to feel cared about and everybody wants to feel important.

1. **ASK** students:
 - a. What is a disability?
(**EXPLAIN:** a disability is a condition that limits a person in being able to see, hear, walk, or speak. Some people with disabilities may be blind, or deaf, or may use a wheelchair if they are unable to walk.)
 - d. Have you ever met a person with a disability?
 - i. If you have, can you think of a way that you included them and treated them the way you would like to be treated?

Cerebral Palsy Introduction:

1. We are going to watch a movie about Samuel, a kid who has a disability that is caused by Cerebral Palsy.
2. **ASK** students:
 - a. Do you know what cerebral palsy is?
(**EXPLAIN:** Cerebral Palsy (pronounced seh-ree-brel pawl-zee) is commonly referred to as “CP.” Often, people who have CP have a hard time controlling their muscles and because of this, they have a more difficult time walking. Many people with CP, like Samuel, look a little bit different and use a wheelchair to get around but they like to have fun and do the same things as you and me.)
 - b. Have you ever met a person with Cerebral Palsy?

Watch the Film:

Before viewing ASK:

- How do we want the people around us to feel about themselves?
- How can our actions help others feel good about themselves?

SAY: Now we are going to watch a movie called Including Samuel. Pay attention to the different ways that his family and his community work to make him feel special, important, and included.

After viewing the movie:

ASK: Samuel’s dad wondered about “how the world would see Samuel.”

1. How do the different people in Samuel’s life see him (his parents, his brother, his classmates and teachers)?
2. How do you see Samuel? When you first saw Samuel, did you focus on him and his personality or his wheelchair? It is normal to recognize differences! That’s okay. But let’s look at what you have in common with Samuel. What could you do together? What could Samuel bring to your life?

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WRAP-UP

SAY: When we say *v'ahavta l'reiacha kamocha*, we mean that we should love our neighbors as we love ourselves...this also teaches us that the dignity of other people should be as precious as our own. We are all responsible for one another - including making sure that our neighbors are being cared for and included.

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