

Kindness vs. Force

Time needed: 25 minutes

Recommended Level: All grades

Categories: Friendship issues, Role-playing, Tolerance

Common Core Standard (s): Reading literature, Speaking & Listening, Language

Purpose: Students will recognize how treating people gently goes a lot further than treating them with force.

DISCUSSION:

Read the poem/play versions of "The Sun and the Wind" available on-line or through McGraw-Hill's Big Book of Exploration, Kindergarten series. A version of the story can also be found here: <http://www.angelfire.com/fl/EirensFaerieTales/SunandWind.html>

Using a Venn Diagram, ask the following questions and complete the diagram:

- What were the Sun and the Wind both trying to do? How did the wind try to accomplish getting the man to take off his coat? How did the sun attempt this?
- Which character would you associate as the bully in this play/poem? Why?
- A fable usually teaches us a lesson, and the title of this lesson is being gentle versus being forceful. What lesson is this fable trying to teach us about bullying?

ACTIVITY:

Find the sentence(s) that give examples of how the Wind is showing force/being a bully. Find the sentence(s) that are examples of how the Sun is being gentle.

Have the students fill out a Venn diagram to show "Being gentle/showing Kindness" and "Being forceful/being a Bully" and illustrate or write how trying to accomplish something can be done two ways.

FOLLOW-UP:

Ask students how they would want to accomplish the goal they wrote about. You could also have the students create a short play (for older students) and videotape their skits to show the class.



Helping Everyone with Anti-Bullying,
Respect & Tolerance