

Learning possibilities

Text: Parr, T 2001, *It's okay to be different*, Little, Brown and Company, Boston.

Engage

- Step 1. If you have this book at home, encourage your child/children to predict what the story is about from the cover. If not use the suggested video link in the Resources box and watch the story together
- Step 2. Invite your child/children to recall the characters in the story.
- Step 3. Here are some questions to ask your child/children about the story.
1. Tell me something that you saw in the story.
 2. What was the person doing in the bath?
 3. What was this story about?
 4. What does being different mean?

Respond

This story celebrates individuality and the importance of feeling good about oneself. It opens up possibilities for discussion about what is special about your child, or each of your children, drawing on their strengths and interests, likes and dislikes.

Extend

- Create whole body outlines on cement tracing around each child with jumbo chalk. Encourage your child/children to draw their face and clothes.
- Use a mirror for your child/children to observe themselves and draw on A3 paper with charcoal or crayons or pastels. Make a family gallery!
- Practise the following rhyme:

I looked in the mirror and what did I see?
I saw my mouth smiling at me.
I looked in the mirror and what did I see?
I saw my nose twitching at me. (*continue and adapt*)

- Encourage each of your children to create an 'I am special' page using the attached resource. Take a photo when complete and send to a grandparent or family friends.

Resources

Video

It's Okay to Be Different – a Read-Aloud with Todd Parr / NO SMALL MATTER (YouTube, No Small Matter)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sI5U2Z0oQok>



I am special



My family

I'm special

I love to play



I do not like

My friends

My favourite foods