

Percy Pinhorn



OVERVIEW

Percy Pinhorn is a children's book that was written and produced by Body Diversity Newfoundland and Labrador (formally The Body Image Network). This book provides a colorful depiction of a story that highlights children's challenges with embracing difference and the importance of acceptance and working together.

The activities targeting grade two or primary aged children are based on this book. Children in grade two are at a developmental stage where they learn through stories.

You can use this story to teach children that body diversity is normal and teasing someone about their appearance is wrong. By exploring our differences together, we can become advocates for creating body positive spaces for all children.

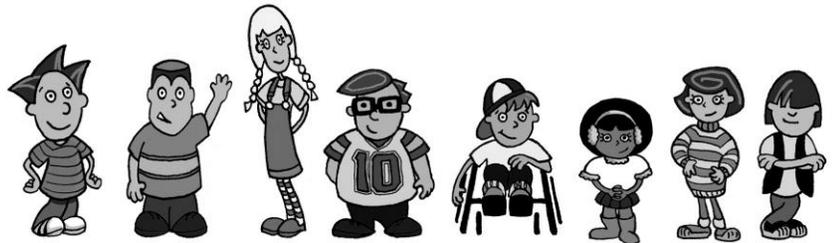
OBJECTIVES

Students will:

- ✓ Acknowledge that it is healthy, normal and positive for people to have diverse bodies
- ✓ Discuss the value of respecting and appreciating our own unique bodies and the bodies of others
- ✓ Identify how differences are valuable and make our classroom/communities more complete
- ✓ Understand that teasing someone based on body size, shape or ability is a form of bullying

MATERIALS

- *Percy Pinhorn* book
www.bodydiversitynl.ca



PROCEDURE

Pre-reading Activities

1. Take a class picture and discuss how all the students look different.
2. Have them identify personal strengths and what they bring to the classroom environment to help to create 'classroom community'.
3. Identify characteristics that make them special/important and compose a journal entry.
4. Identify 'key words' and discuss: popular, teasing, diversity, different, prejudice, unique, avoid during reading activities.

Discussion Questions and Activities

The following questions and activities can be used during or after reading *Percy Pinhorn*.

Page	Type	Instructions
2	Discussion	Show random pictures of people (from magazines or online) and ask the students how they look to them (e.g. weird, lazy, smart, funny, athletic) based solely on their appearance. Ask the students if we can truly tell what someone is like based solely on what someone looks like. Discuss teasing – Role play to help demonstrate how to deal with various situations involving teasing.
3	Discussion	Ask students who loves them and why they think these people love them. Focus on character traits. Discuss if they were to change their own hair colour would it change the person they are or make them any better at math, sports, art or music?
4	Discussion	Ask students what do they look for in a friend? Why do you think people want to be your friend? Encourage the students to focus on character traits.
6	Discussion	Discuss that there are things about us that we cannot change, is this good or bad? There are things about us that we can change, like the way that we treat

Page	Type	Instructions
		people. Is this good or bad?
7	Activity	<p>Connecting words to pictures: Read page 7 and have them draw a picture of the 'Blue Team'</p> <p>Compare the pictures that they have drawn with 'The Rangers'.</p> <p>Whole class discussion: Are there qualities/ strengths that 'The Rangers' may be able to bring to the game that the 'Blue Team' may not have?</p>
8	Activity	Read page 8 and have students draw a picture of 'The Rangers' team. Before they draw discuss what it means to be different shapes and sizes.
9	Discussion	Ask students what are some other good things about being tall?
11	Discussion	Ask students what are some other things that you can do if you are short, that a taller person may not be able to do?
13	Discussion and Activity	<p>Ask students why Johnny Jet was the only one that could reach the clues? Do they think that the Blue Team would have given 'The Rangers' their clue? Why or why not?</p> <p>Activity: Do a character map for Johnny Jet looking at both physical and personality characteristics.</p>
14-15	Discussion	<p>Ask the students:</p> <p>How did all the different characteristics of 'The Rangers' come together to help them win the treasure hunt?</p> <p>Is looking, acting, and being the same as someone else always the best way to be?</p> <p>Can you always be your best self if you are trying to look like someone else?</p>
16	Activity	Brainstorm what are the important things that you look for in a friend?

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		<p>Have each student complete their own character map, identifying personality characteristics they have that make them good friends.</p> <p>Next, have them trace their bodies on butcher paper. They can add their facial features, clothing, and enhance other physical characteristics. On their clothing that they put on their 'person' they can write their personality traits like a jigsaw puzzle. These can be displayed all over the classroom.</p>
17	Discussion	<p>Discuss the word prejudice. Come up with a class definition.</p> <p>Discuss the word bullying. Come up with a class definition.</p> <p>In journals, write about a time when they have seen or experienced prejudice or bullying. How did that make them feel?</p> <p>Come up with five ways to help make their classroom a safe and respectful place for all of their classmates. Post the list in the classroom.</p>