Building Inclusiveness—Lego Style!

Students love to use their hands to learn, explain, and explore. This project allows them a concrete way to illustrate how they could practice inclusiveness in the classroom.

Inclusiveness Sub-Concept(s)
Kindness

Project Timeframe
25-30 minutes

Required Materials
- A bowl of Legos for each student
- Lego mat for each student (optional)
- Sequencing cards (see below)
- Use larger Duplo Legos for children with manual dexterity struggles

The project is simple: Show one of the cards below (enlarging it on your whiteboard would be the best option) and ask this short question:

“How would you include this student?”

Students will use their Legos to create answers to the question. At this age, do not limit them to only feasible options. Oftentimes our imaginative, impossible answers spark real life unconventional solutions during post-creation conversations.

The only requirement is that each student can explain what they created and HOW it will include the person. They must use the pieces they were provided. No trading and no complaining; just building.

Allow 10-20 minutes for building time.

After the time is up, have each student present their solution. Generate a conversation around inclusiveness as students present.

- What common theme did they come up with?
- What new approach might work well in your class?
- What was hard about this assignment?
- Have you ever felt left out? What did you do?
- Has anyone ever tried to include you when you were all alone? If so, how did that make you feel?

If possible, display your Legos on a table in the hallway with an explanation of the activity. Create a suggestion box and have passersby add their own ideas for inclusiveness as well!

The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) has been reviewing evidence-based SEL programs since 2003. Kindness in the Classroom® meets CASEL's SESelect Program and is included in the CASEL Guide to Effective Social and Emotional Learning Programs.

Kindness in the Classroom® met or exceeded all of CASEL's criteria for high-quality SEL programming. Kindness in the Classroom® received CASEL's highest designation for high-quality SEL programming.

https://casel.org/guide/kindness-in-the-classroom/