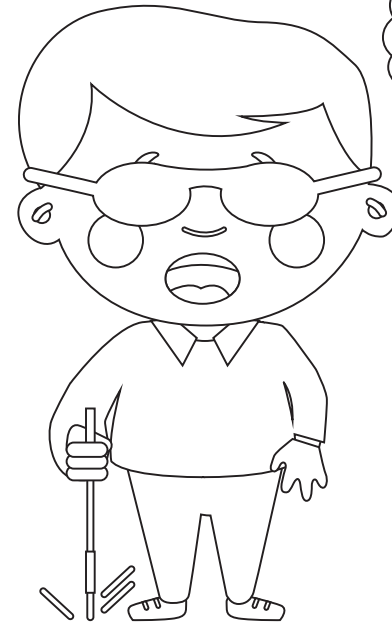
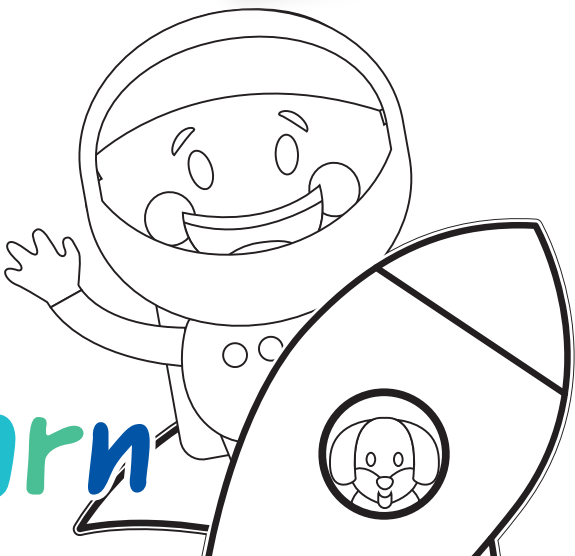


# Being Different



# Being Different

## **Reader Notes:**

These stories have been designed to help children learn about school so they know what to expect and can learn positive ways to respond to new situations. As a teacher, parent or carer you can help your child by reading through the stories. You could point out how the child's school experience is different and similar to that in the story and come up with other positive ways to respond. We hope these stories can make children feel more confident, safe and accepted at school.

At school, there are lots of kids.

Some kids look the same.

They might wear similar clothes,

They might like similar things,

They might talk the same way,

Or they might have friends who  
are just like them.

But some of us are a little bit...

Different!



Some kids are SUPER energetic and are always moving around!

Some kids have HUGE imaginations and daydream all the time.

Some kids are into different things.



Some kids stick out and look a bit different.

Some of us have fun hair styles.

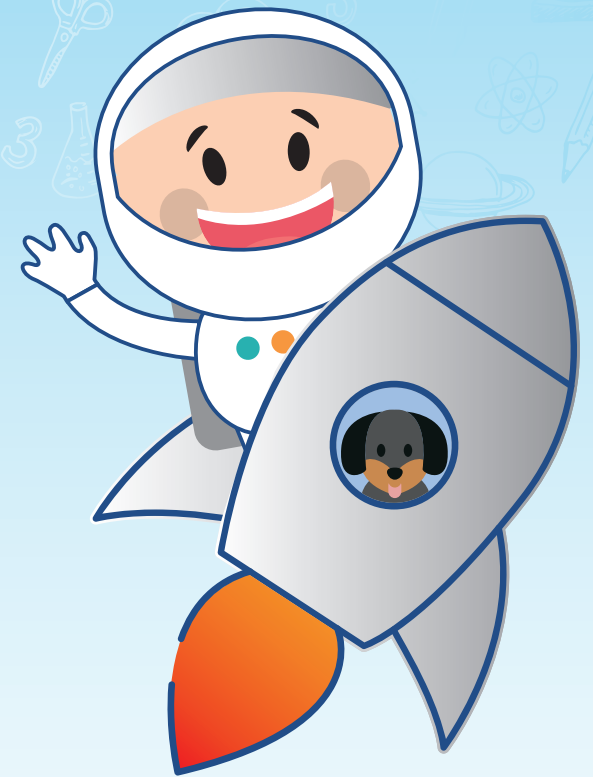
Some of us get around in all kinds of different ways.



Some kids  
talk differently.

Some kids think  
a bit differently.

Hello



Some kids see differently.  
Some kids hear differently.  
Some kids have lots of  
different friends.



It can be hard sometimes when you feel you are different to other kids. Kids might notice and think you don't fit in with everyone else. They might tease you or exclude you which can make you feel sad and alone.

But...

Being different means you can be your true self rather than trying to act like everyone else. It's important to do things because you enjoy doing them, not because others do.

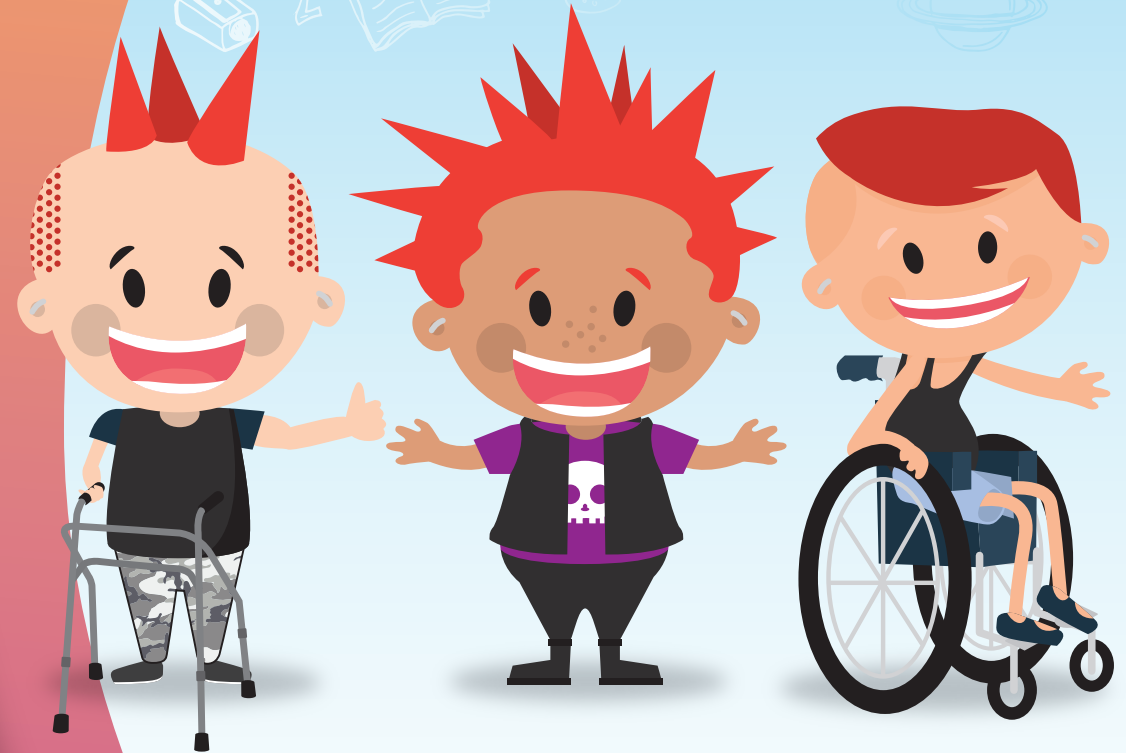




Your friends will like you for who you really are.

Being different means you might have your own creative ways of doing things. You can bring new solutions to the world!

Remember, if everyone was the same, the world would be really boring!



## **AllPlay: Making the world fit for all kids**

AllPlay is about creating inclusive environments for children wherever they learn, play, dance and engage in the community.

Our team of researchers brings together the research evidence that sits behind our toolkits and programs to ensure that the strategies we deliver are as effective as they can be.

We work with those committed to creating inclusive communities including coaches, sporting clubs, dance schools, teachers and educators, parents and healthcare practitioners.



***Our philosophy:***  
*Change the world, not the child.*

## Our current programs:



### AllPlay Footy

What better way to introduce inclusion than through one of Australia's most loved and influential sports. In collaboration with the Australian Football League (AFL), the AllPlay Footy program is helping footy clubs nationwide embrace inclusion.

The driving force of the AllPlay Footy program, our website, is fast becoming



a world-leading resource for inclusion in sports. Packed with evidence-based strategies such as footy stories and how-to videos featuring AFL stars, it is the go-to place for parents, coaches, kids and anyone interested in learning about inclusion.

Visit: [allplayfooty.org.au](http://allplayfooty.org.au)

*"We are extremely proud of our relationship with Deakin University, and the amazing AllPlay Footy resources we are using to ensure more kids with disabilities can access our great game."*

*Tim Nield - AFL Inclusion (All Abilities) Manager*



A research program to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in participating in footy, by working with community elders and the wider community.



### AllPlay Dance

Works with dance schools, dance teachers, parents and healthcare practitioners to promote inclusion in dance, as well as through our digital resource Australia's first comprehensive digital resource for making dance inclusive for all children. It provides information for creating inclusive dance schools and companies, and equips parents, teachers and kids with evidence-based tools.

Inclusive dance directory

Dance schools around Australia who have embraced inclusion can be listed on the AllPlay Dance website for parents to find.

Visit: [allplaydance.org.au](http://allplaydance.org.au)



### AllPlay Learn

Helps teachers implement inclusion strategies in the classroom through our digital resource [allplaylearn.org.au](http://allplaylearn.org.au) and professional development programs for teachers.

Visit: [allplaylearn.org.au](http://allplaylearn.org.au)



For more stories and information on making education accessible for everyone  
please visit: [allplaylearn.org.au](http://allplaylearn.org.au)



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Education  
and Training