

# Friends of All Kinds: Diversity Includes Disability



It's important to learn to be a good friend. It is also important to learn about what makes us alike and different.



We are all made up of lots of different parts. Some differences stand out more to other people and some are hidden.



People can have different skin colors.

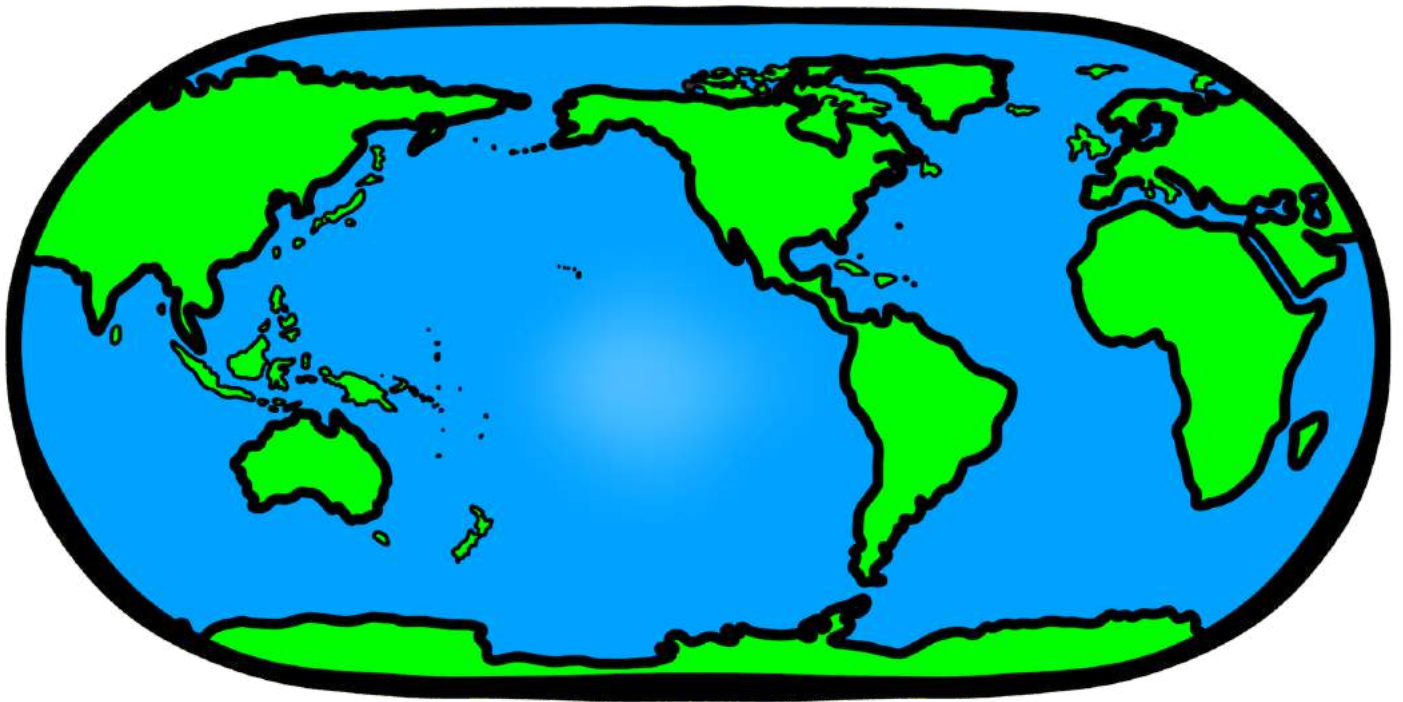




People can identify with  
different genders.



People can come from different places all over the world.



People can have different beliefs and values.



Another type of difference is called disability. A disability may impact the way a person looks, moves, communicates, or how they process information.

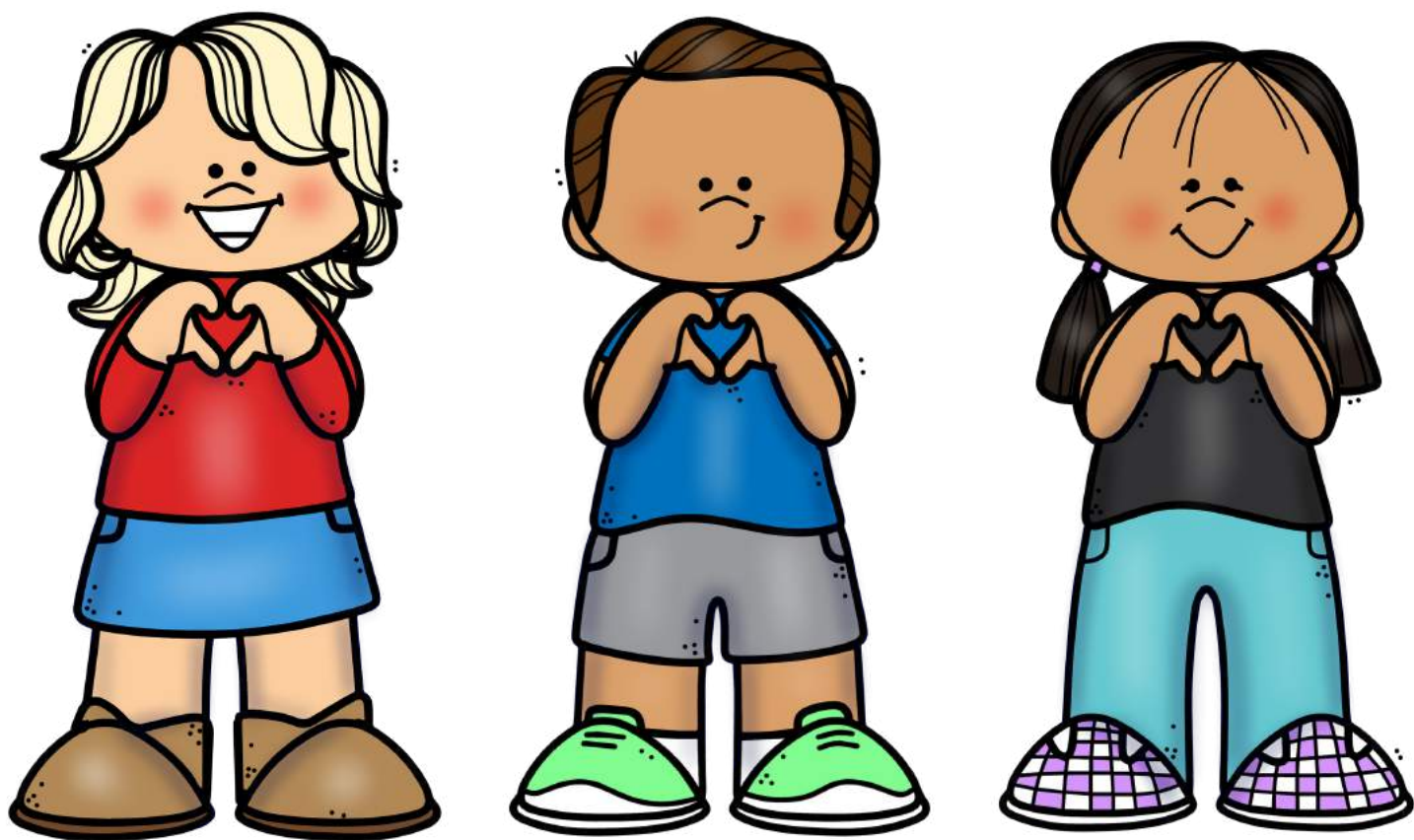




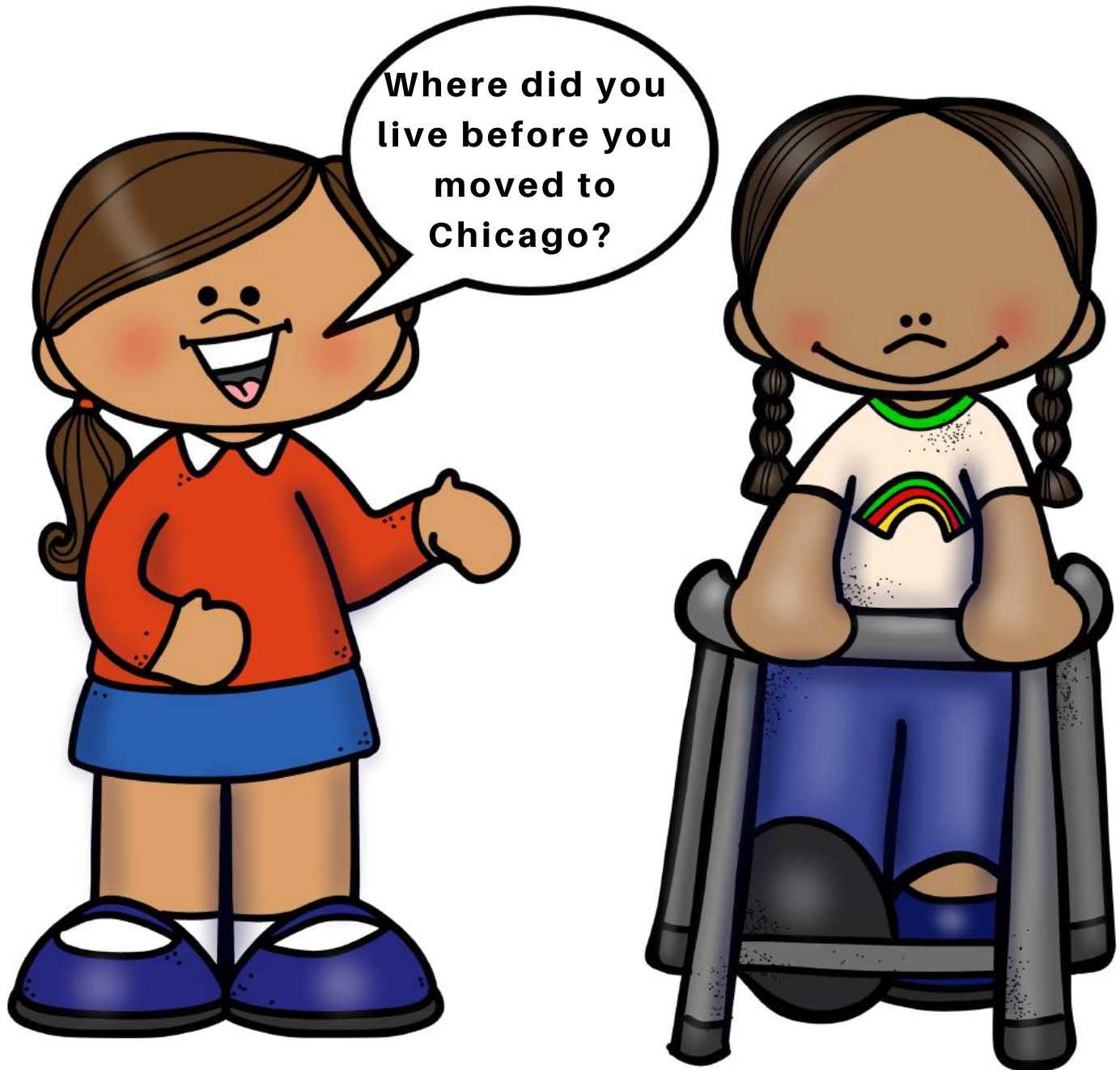
Our differences aren't good or bad, and none are better than the others! All of our parts, including disability, are okay. They make us human.



We can see and celebrate a person's disability and also see and celebrate their other identity parts. It's important to be a good friend to everyone, including people with disabilities.



In order to be a good friend to everyone, we must get to know what makes a person who they are - we must learn their stories!



When you make new friends, it's okay to have feelings and questions and to share them with an adult you trust.





Have you ever  
gotten to know  
someone who is  
different from  
you?



How do you feel  
about making  
new friends  
this year?



Shy



Surprised



Happy



Worried



Scared



Excited

Are there  
other  
feelings you  
have?



# Additional Reflection Questions:

What questions, curiosities, or worries do you have about meeting new friends who might seem different than you?

What are some strategies you know about that can help calm your nerves when you are meeting new people or spending time with people you don't know well?

What are some social skills/tools you can use to help you when you are spending time with new or unfamiliar people?

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