

ACCEPTANCE

OVERVIEW

lesson 1



BIG IDEA

Acceptance is the act of including someone in your life or group as an equal. Acceptance can be demonstrated as approval, respect, validation, and sympathy.

KEY VERSES

I Peter 3:8

All of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble.

MATERIALS LIST

- photocopies of Bat coloring page, one per child
- black construction paper, 2 sheets per child
- copies of Bat Hat template
- white chalk
- wiggly eyes, 2 per child
- glue
- stapler & staples (provided)
- scissors (provided)





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THE LEGEND OF THE BAT



PREPARATION

No preparation required for this lesson.

LESSON SCRIPT

One time, a long time ago, all the animals decided they were going to have a big ball game on a certain day. The various animals and birds all gathered up out in a big field. It was going to be all the land animals against all the birds of the air. The two teams got their leaders chosen, got their balls and were ready to play. As you surely know, the bat often sleeps during most of the day. Well, the little groggy bat woke up from all the commotion and came on out; he wanted to play, too.

The animals rejected the Bat and said, “You can’t play on our team because you fly, you have to play with the birds.” The birds also rejected the Bat and said, “Oh no, you can’t play on our team because you don’t have feathers, you have fur, you have hair just like the animals.” The poor bat-- she wanted to play very badly. Finally, the animals grudgingly accepted and said “Well,

you can play on our team but don’t get hurt, you’re so small you can’t do much anyway, just stay out of the way but we’ll let you play on our team.” Of course the birds were happy about this, they were a smug lot at times.

Well, the game got started and even though the animals could run very swiftly, and jump very high, the birds kept taking the ball and scoring. And they scored and they scored. Among the birds, the Crane was the most graceful and the strongest flier. The animals were just losing very badly. Well finally, the little Bat just jumped up and flew into action. Now as you know, the Bat is very swift and can turn very quickly. Soon, the Bat had taken the ball away, gone swiftly to the goal and scored. And then the Bat took the ball away again and scored--the Bat repeated this feat over and over. The Bat won the ball game for all the animals. Now the animals were



happy to accept the Bat on their team.

Now, the birds were very sorry that they didn't accept the bat play on their team and immediately set out the claim the bat as one of their own because it could fly. The animals of course were very happy and claimed the Bat because of its fur. Seemed to be a tie of wills going on. Well, the rat (who) took council among them all, finally and wisely made this little announcement, "even though you can fly

like a bird, you have fur--hair like us.....and even though you can fly like a bird you have skin like animals, you cannot be part of both." Just then, the birds said--the Bat is one of us. No, No, all the animals shout, Bat must be one of us. The rat continued after the interruptions. "Well, the bat also has teeth like the animals." The animals took note of this observation by the rat said yes, you have teeth like the animals.

And so it was agreed on that day that the

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Why did the birds reject the Bat?
- Why did the animals reject the Bat?
- What changed their minds?
- In this story the Bat was accepted because he proved he was good at the game. Do you think people should accept or reject others based on how good they are at an activity?
- Can you give an example of a time when you felt accepted or rejected?
- In this story the animals were divided based on if they could fly, if they had fur, their size and if they had teeth. How are people classified?
- What are some good reasons to classify people? (Training such as doctors or pilots. Ages in school. Sizes for safety.)
- What are some bad reasons to classify people? (Color. Looks. Clothes. Family.)
- How can we practice showing acceptance of people who are different from us?





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CRAFT

BAT HAT

Make a fun bat hat with wings and teeth. Remember, the Native American legend that classifies a Bat as an animal because it has teeth.



PREPARATION

- Print several Bat Hat templates on stiff paper.
- Cut out Bat Hat templates.



DIRECTIONS

1. Trace head and wing templates onto black paper using chalk.
2. Cut out the head and wing pieces.
3. Cut two strips of paper 1 1/2" x 12".
4. Draw bat face onto head.
5. Glue wiggly eyes onto head.
6. Staple paper strips to create a fitted headband.
7. Staple wings to headband then fold out.

SIMPLIFIED CRAFT OPTIONS

- Pre-cut head and wings
- Pre-cut 1 1/2" x 12" strips
- Draw smile and eyes with white chalk instead of gluing wiggly eyes.





MONKEY TAG

Monkey Tag and Animal Tag! Silly versions of the classic tag game.

PREPARATION

- Play this game in a large open space such as a lawn or gym.

DIRECTIONS

Monkey Tag

1. Scatter with three or four persons who are “it”.
2. All players run around. When they are tagged, they must lie on their backs, feet up in the air.
3. They are free if another person can touch both feet with their elbow before being caught.
4. Time the game so many get a turn at being “it”.
5. *Variation: In order for the tagged person to be free they have to be touched on each limb by 4 different people.*

Animal Tag

1. To prepare for this zany zoo game, mark four different areas as “cages” and decide on one person to be “it” (the “zookeeper”).
2. Divide the remaining players into four groups and designate one person to play the part of the “monkey” — the mischievous player whose role it is to free the others from the cages.
3. Each group chooses an animal and a movement for the game, i.e. kangaroos can hop, cheetahs can run, horses can gallop, etc.
4. To begin, the animals are set free to move around, but if tagged must return to their respective cage.
5. While the zookeeper is trying to lock up all the animals, the monkey is letting everyone loose!



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BAT HAT TEMPLATE





