

EVERY ONE COUNTS

Respect and communication

Demonstrating respect is an essential component of character and citizenship education. Respecting all living things is an attitude outcome throughout the science curriculum and showing respect for self and others is a component of the health curriculum. The concept that every one counts regardless of background, beliefs, appearance, and often for the case of animals, perceived value is at the heart this. Every living thing has intrinsic value that necessitates respect and compassion and discussing the notion that every one counts helps empower students to make choices that positivity impact themselves and others.

Introduce the poster and discuss the following:

Discussion Questions

- What does “every one counts” mean to you?
- Do you agree with the statement? Why or why not?
- What does it mean to respect someone or something? Does every person deserve respect? Do all animals deserve respect?
- What ways that we can demonstrate respect for Ourselves? Others? Animals? The environment?
- What are some reasons people do not always show respect to other people? Animals? The environment? (*unfamiliar, fear, differences of opinion or beliefs*) Do you think these are good reasons?
- How do you feel when other show you respect? Why is it important to show respect?

Activity:

1. What are ways that we respectfully communicate with others? What about our pets? Livestock? (*being kind, being aware of personal space, using positive training techniques, being aware of flight zones*). Have student select an animal and research positive ways that we can train and communicate with them. Students can share their findings with a poster or a presentation.
2. As a class discuss the animals on the poster. What are some similarities and differences? How are these animals valued by society? Have students create their own posters with different animals they feel need more respect or expand the poster to include animals, people and the environment.

Make Your Mark!

Send us copies of some of your students' projects to get on the **Kindness Map!**

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