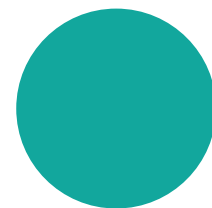


**we are**  
**unique**  
**diverse**  
**special**  
**talented**  
**skilled**  
**gifted**  
**kids first!**



*everychild.one voice.®*



**KIDS FIRST**

# WHAT ARE SPECIAL NEEDS?

Most of us understand special needs individuals as people who require special accommodations or services in order to function to the fullest extent possible at home, at school, at work, and in the community.

Generally speaking, individuals with special needs are those having a disabling condition or an established medical disability, such as autism, deafness, hearing impairment, developmental disability, intellectual disability, orthopedic impairment, specific learning disability, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, and visual impairment to name a few.

Recognizing that people with special needs have limits on daily life activities such as caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, learning, and working, allows us to be sensitive to their needs. As members of the community, children and adults need to understand that people with special needs come from diverse backgrounds, including males and females of all ages, religions, races, and national origin, and that their disabilities can have a wide range of impact on their daily lives.

# UNIQUE ABILITIES DAY

## Objectives

- Experience the daily challenges of persons with special needs
- Foster a sense of community between the general population and diverse families
- Building trust within schools and diverse families
- Teach that inclusion is an approach not a program
- Inclusion is the way, instead of segregation
- Show that disabilities are only one piece of the inclusion puzzle - inclusion is essentially welcoming everyone into your world, no matter their background, their ethnicity, the language they speak, how they look or see, hear, walk or react to "normal" situations.

## Purpose

Teach that people with special needs:

- Have the same desire to fit in as everyone else
- Have a different way to see and do things
- Just learn in a different way

# PROGRAM STATIONS

- **Dyslexia**
- **Speech Impairment**
- **ADHD**
- **Autism**
- **Visual Impairment**
- **& more to come!**

For more info about Kids First and other Texas PTA programs, contact [programs@txpta.org](mailto:programs@txpta.org) or visit [txpta.org/programs](http://txpta.org/programs)

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