

SHOW YOUR STRIPES®



NORD®
National Organization
for Rare Disorders



ON RARE DISEASE DAY®
FEBRUARY 29, 2024

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Classroom activities

- [Watch "10 Things You May Not Know About Rare Diseases" video.](#)
- Download and print this [coloring sheet](#). Ask students to color in the hands and hang up all the handprints on a bulletin board in the hallway to raise awareness of Rare Disease Day®.
- Show off your classroom's support of Rare Disease Day by participating in the [Show Your Stripes® campaign!](#) Take a picture of your students showing their support for rare diseases by wearing stripes and share it on social media using the hashtags #RareDiseaseDay and #ShowYourStripes or email it to us at marketing@rarediseases.org.

Bullying and acceptance

There are more than 25 million people affected by rare diseases, and children are the large majority. Many children with rare diseases face bullying and lack of peer acceptance. Teach your students about bullying, acceptance and breaking down social barriers.

- Ask the students some discussion questions:
 - What is a bully? How does a bully act?
 - Have you ever been bullied? How did it make you feel?
 - What should you do if you see someone being bullied?
- Define what bullying means.
 - Teasing
 - Talking about someone
 - Spreading rumors
 - Leaving kids out on purpose
- Explain to your students that people may look, talk or think differently, but they have the same feelings as you.
- Explain to your students the concept of classmates always eating together, and the importance of inviting a classmate to join your table if they are eating alone.
- Encourage students to sit with someone different and get to know each other.
 - Explain to your students how this can help eliminate bullying and social isolation in the classroom.

Questions? Write to NORD at education@rarediseases.org.