

Exploring Fairness and Discrimination

The Puppet with Dots

Puppet: You have dots on you. Why do you have dots on you?

Puppet with Dots: I was born that way. My mom tells me that the dots make me special and unique.

Puppet: Well, I think they look strange. No one else has dots. I don't have dots.

Puppet with Dots: I love my dots. They shine in the dark. They do make me special.

Puppet: You should look like all of us. Ha, ha, ha! You have dots, you have dots, you have dots! You are strange and different.

Puppet with Dots: *(Says to self: "Stop, take two belly breaths, and decide—talk or walk? I will try to talk and I'll use an "I" statement.)* I feel angry and hurt that you are teasing me. Please stop.

Puppet: You scare me because you look so different. No one is going to want to be your friend.

Puppet with Dots: *(Says to self: "Walk away. [Walks away and starts crying.] I feel really sad and hurt. I'm worried that I won't have any friends if I have dots. I wonder if I could get rid of my dots somehow. I'm not thinking clearly. I need to do a calming activity so I can think and use my owl part of my brain.")*

Questions for Discussion

1. Is the puppet with dots different? Is he unique and special?
2. Is the puppet with dots being treated differently because of his dots? Is he being discriminated against?
3. Is that fair?
4. How do you think the puppet with dots is feeling?
5. How is the puppet who is being mean feeling?
6. How are you feeling? Why?
7. Why is the other puppet being mean to the puppet with dots?
8. What would you say to the puppet with dots?
9. Would you be friends with puppet with dots?