

A Walk in My Shoes Event Overview

April 11, 2019

Camelot Elementary School Gym

Morning Schedule

9:20 - 10:05 Grade 5

10:05 - 10:50 Grade 2

10:50 - 11:35 Grade 6

11:35-12:15 Grade 3

Afternoon Schedule

1:10 - 1:55 Grade 1

1:55 - 2:40 Grade K

2:45 - 3:30 Grade 4

Event Overview

The Camelot Acceptance Team aims to build a culture of acceptance at Camelot by educating the Camelot student body, sharing information with Camelot staff, and celebrating our differences. This year we will be hosting our second special event on April 11th titled, “A Walk in My Shoes.” This package includes an event overview, event map, and a sample script for discussion with your class for the day before the event.

The purpose of ***A Walk in My Shoes*** is to foster an environment where differences are respected by providing students with the opportunity to see the world from the viewpoints of others. This is a successful existing interactive program offered at Floris Elementary School. We used a grant from the Fairfax County Council of PTAs to fund an expert to provide a manual and training, and for our PTA to purchase materials.

Stations

The event is kicked off with a quick presentation about disabilities at the stage. We then will feature a number of activities that enable students in grades K-6 to experience the perspective of students with disabilities or sensory issues and to build empathy and increase understanding. Each grade level is divided into homeroom classrooms and will come to the gym and visit four “experiential” stations.

Rotating every eight minutes per station, staff and PTA volunteers will lead hands-on activities by leading a lesson with the opportunity for students to:

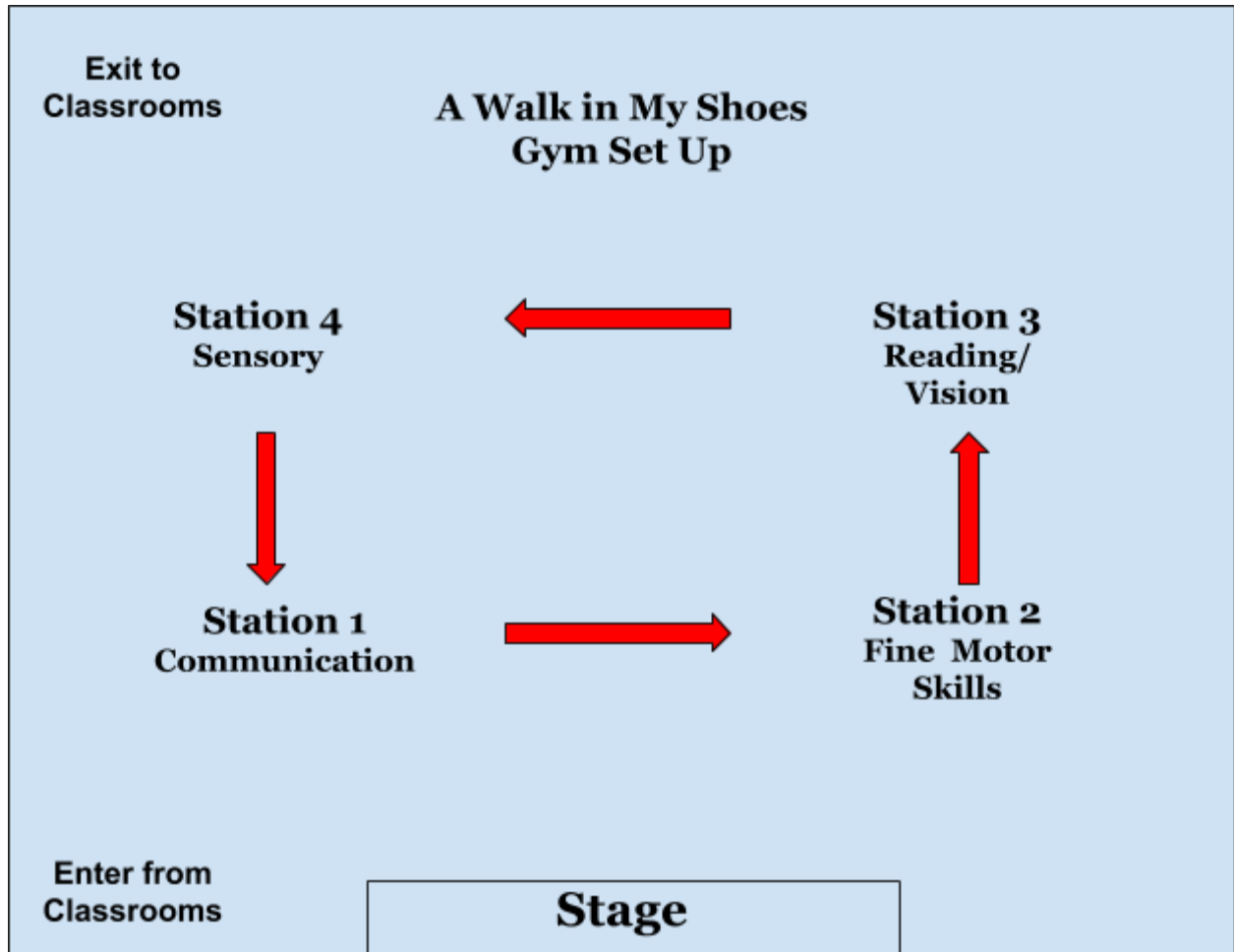
1. Complete the activity
2. Provide feedback
3. Ask questions

The following stations will be available:

1. Communication & Attention Skills (Subjects: Verbal Deficits/Non-verbal, Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Attention Deficits)
2. Fine Motor Skills
3. Reading/Vision Skills (Subjects: Reading Disabilities/Visual Motor Integration)
4. Sensory Skills (Subject: Sensory Processing)

**Sensory Skills (Gross Motor Sensory Input) will take place during one gym class this week*

***A Walk in My Shoes Classroom Preparation
Gym Map***



A Walk in My Shoes Classroom Preparation

Share the following information with your class about the event:

1. Our classroom will go to four different stations in the gym to engage in activities and to experience the world from viewpoints of others. Each station will focus on a different activity that enables us to experience various differences and challenges our community and peers face through learning and daily activities.
2. Volunteers will lead us through these activities to help us understand the feeling of empathy and to better understand what other people experience in life, thus why the event is called “A Walk in My Shoes.” You are going to see what it’s like to walk in other people’s shoes.
3. I ask that you listen and be respectful to the staff and volunteers running the event. I will walk around the stations with you and you can let me or a volunteer know if you need help.

Classroom Discussion About Disabilities:

I want to talk a little bit more about disabilities to help you get ready for the event.

(Feel free to use as much or as little from the script below)

What is a disability?

A condition that makes it harder for someone to do certain things like most other people do. A disability is not contagious nor can it be passed to friends or family.

What causes a disability?

Some people are born with a disability. Some people could have a disability caused by an accident or injury. Some people could develop a disability with old age.

What kinds of disabilities are there?

- Sometimes disabilities affect the way a person moves or limits their movements
- Some people have visual impairment or vision loss
- Some people have hearing impairment or are deaf or hard of hearing

(Continued on Next Page)

- Sometimes disabilities affect the way a person learns and how they can use what they learn. A disability can make it harder for people to listen, speak, read, write or do math. Some things may just take longer to learn.

Although we are all different, we all have so many PossAbilities!

- We are all good in different things
- We can all learn in different ways
- We can all communicate in different ways
- We all have feelings and emotions
- And...we can all be friends!

What if I want to understand more?

It is OKAY to ask questions and want to learn about disabilities. You may want to know more about...

- What makes someone different?
- What help might someone need?
- How can I be their friend?

It is NOT OKAY to make jokes about someone with a disability or treat someone differently.

- Everyone has feelings
- Everyone can be included
- Everyone can be your friend