PLEDGE TO PLAY NICE!

with

Llama Llama
Dear Parents, Teachers, Librarians, and Booksellers,

Bullying is a nationwide issue on playgrounds, in classrooms, at home, and online. The topic is both sensitive and timely, and now more than ever it needs to be addressed. For very young children and students, picture books provide model examples of both good and bad behavior, and adults can use these relatable characters and stories to make the connection with young readers. In *Llama Llama and the Bully Goat* by Anna Dewdney, Llama Llama witnesses and falls victim to name-calling and teasing. Llama’s response and the lesson he learns inspired us to create the Pledge to Play Nice kit. Use the enclosed poster, activities, pledge certificate and stickers to engage your children in the “play nice” cause. Encourage children to play nice by being a friend to others, and also by being themselves. We hope you can incorporate this kit into your classrooms and communities to treat one another with respect and kindness.

Part of being kind to ourselves is having confidence and appreciating what is special about each of us. Many times children who lack self-confidence end up being victims of bullying or become bullies themselves. It’s also important for children to realize that being a friend means more than just being “nice.” It also means making sure that other children are included in activities and not feeling left out or rejected. The books and activities we have included will help you introduce these ideas to children in an engaging way.

In addition to the activities, we are also including a “play nice” pledge written by Anna Dewdney. Our hope is that you will have children take the pledge and refer back to it throughout the year to remind them that playing nice is something we must all commit to in order to create a positive and safe environment.

Happy reading!

Penguin Young Readers

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llamallamabook.com
Play Nice, Be Yourself!

Recommended for Grades K–2, corresponds to the following Common Core Standards:
ELA-Literacy.R.1.1, ELA-Literacy.R.1.2

**READ:** Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon by Patty Lovell with your class. Molly Lou Melon has confidence thanks to her grandmother’s encouragement. As a class discuss how lydia feels when she first begins to hang out with the girls from the celebrity table. Ask students, “How do her feelings change when she knows they are picking on other students, including Jamie?” At the end of the book, Patricia Polacco asks, “What would you do?” Ask your students to write an expository paper about the best way to deal with bullying. Use the outline below to guide your class.

**ACTIVITY:** Brainstorm ways to handle a bully while still being kind. Then create an acrostic on how to be a good friend.

**Things I like to do:**

**My Name:**

**My family:**

**My friends:**

**I**

**Places I like to go:**

**Conclusion:**

How do you think your ideas for dealing with bullies can make a difference at your school?

**Other titles about being yourself:**

Katie Kazoo, Switcheroo: Anyone But Me by Nancy Krulik and Dragonbreath by Ursula Vernon

**Other titles about being a friend:**

Bootsie Barker Bites by Anna Dewdney

**Plays Nice, Be a Friend!**

Recommended for Grades K–2, corresponds to the following Common Core Standards:
ELA-Literacy.R.1.1, ELA-Literacy.R.1.2

**READ:** Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon by Patty Lovell with your class. Molly Lou Melon has confidence thanks to her grandmother’s encouragement. As a class discuss how lydia feels when she first begins to hang out with the girls from the celebrity table. Ask students, “How do her feelings change when she knows they are picking on other students, including Jamie?” At the end of the book, Patricia Polacco asks, “What would you do?” Ask your students to write an expository paper about the best way to deal with bullying. Use the outline below to guide your class.

**ACTIVITY:** Have students fill in the boxes below with special characteristics about each of them. Then have them create a poster by drawing a self-portrait and writing all of the things that are special about each of them around their self-portrait.

**My Name:**

**Things I like to do:**

**My family:**

**My friends:**

**My Story:**

**Conclusion:**

How do you think your ideas for dealing with bullies can make a difference at your school?

**Other titles about being yourself:**

Katie Kazoo, Switcheroo: Anyone But Me by Nancy Krulik and Dragonbreath by Ursula Vernon

**Other titles about being a friend:**

Bootsie Barker Bites by Anna Dewdney

**Tech Tip:** Ask your students to create a digital wall for their friends by using Voki.com. Allow students to upload a picture of themselves. Then, ask them to create their friend using voki.com. They can use this app to create a unique portrait of their friend. Students can add favorite phrases and images about their friend, and then listen to the audio and see the images while the voice is being recorded.

**TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION:** Ask your students to create a digital wall for the whole class on padlet.com. Post sticky notes on the wall with one thing that they learned or experienced this week. Print the wall and post it in the classroom to refer back to during the year.

**Collect All of the Books**

**Henry and the Bully**

**Bootsie Barker Bites**

**The Story of Ferdinand**

**The Rat and the Tiger**

**Llama Llama and the Bully Goat**

**EllRay Jakes Is Anyone But Me**

**Katie Kazoo, Switcheroo: Anyone But Me**

**Henry and the Bully**

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**EllRay Jakes Is Anyone But Me**

**Katie Kazoo, Switcheroo: Anyone But Me**

**Tech Tip:** Ask your students to create a digital wall for the whole class on padlet.com. Post sticky notes on the wall with one thing that they learned or experienced this week. Print the wall and post it in the classroom to refer back to during the year.

**TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION:** Create a digital wall for the whole class on padlet.com. Post sticky notes on the wall with one thing that they learned or experienced this week. Print the wall and post it in the classroom to refer back to during the year.
**Play Nice, Be Yourself!**

**READ:** Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon by Patty Lovell with your class. Molly Lou Melon has confidence thanks to her grandmother’s encouragement. As a class talk about all of the things that make Molly Lou special. Ask students: What are some of the things that are special about each of us?

**ACTIVITY:** Have students fill in the boxes below with special characteristics about each of them. Then have them create a poster by drawing a self-portrait and writing all of the things that are special about them around their self-portrait.

- My Name: [Blank]
- Things I like to do: [Blank]
- My family: [Blank]
- My friends: [Blank]
- Places I like to go: [Blank]

**Introduction:**
Define bullying and provide examples.

**Body:**
Discuss how bullying affects you personally and how you deal with bullies.

**Conclusion:**
How do you think your ideas for dealing with bullies can make a difference at your school?

**Collector All of the Books**

**TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION:** Visit the following blog post for a tornado craft idea: www.readingcom.com/2012/06/buttersandleaves.php

**TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION:** Allow students to create their friend using voki.com. They can choose a character to animate and even record something for the friend to say.

**Other titles about being a friend:**
- Friendship According to Humphrey by Barbara Bottner
- Mal and Chad: Food Fight! by Dave Pilkey
- The Story of Ferdinand by Munro Leaf
- Each Kindness by Jacqueline Woodson

**Other titles about being yourself:**
- Anyone But Me by Barbara Bottner
- Llama Llama and the Bully Goat by Anna Dewdney
- The Story of Ferdinand by Munro Leaf
- Each Kindness by Jacqueline Woodson
- The.Ignore.[.lot] by Donna Jo Napoli
- I Hate My Friends by Barbara Bottner

**Other titles about being yourself:**
- The Ignore.[.lot] by Donna Jo Napoli
- I Hate My Friends by Barbara Bottner
- The Story of Ferdinand by Munro Leaf
- Each Kindness by Jacqueline Woodson
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**Play Nice, Be Yourself!**

**READ:** Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon by Patty Lovell with your class. Molly Lou Melon has confidence thanks to her grandmother’s encouragement. As a class talk about all of the things that make Molly Lou special. Ask students: What are some of the things that are special about each of us?

**ACTIVITY:** Have students fill in the boxes below with special characteristics about each of them. Then have them create a poster by drawing a self-portrait and writing all of the things that are special about them around their self-portrait.

**My Name:**

**Things I like to do:**

**My family:**

**My friends:**

**Places I like to go:**

**Other titles about being yourself:** Katie Kazoo, Switcheroo: Anyone But Me by Nancy Krulik and Dargonbreath by Ursula Vernon

**Play Nice, Be Yourself!**

**READ:** Bully by Patricia Polacco as a class. Lyla moves to a new city and quickly makes a new friend in Jamie. However, when the popular girls start giving her attention, Lyla gives up what is important to her, including Jamie, just to fit in. She soon realizes that being popular may not be worth losing her identity and friendships.

**ACTIVITY:** As a class discuss how Lyla feels when she first begins to hang out with the girls from the celebrity table. Ask students, “How do her feelings change when she knows they are picking on other students, including Jamie?” At the end of the book, Patricia Polacco asks, “What would you do?” Ask your students to write an expository paper about the best way to deal with bullying. Use the outline below to guide your class.

**Introduction:**
Define bullying and provide examples.

**Body:**
Discuss how bullying affects you personally and how you deal with bullies.

**Conclusion:**
How do you think your ideas for dealing with bullies can make a difference at your school?

**Other titles about being yourself:** Bootsie Barker Bites by Stephen McCranie.

**Play Nice, Be a Friend!**

**READ:** Otis and the Tornado by Loren Long with your class. Otis and the farm animals love to play follow the leader. Each animal leads in a unique way. After reading the book, discuss with your class why the bull decided to join the game. Then, allow students to make a line and play follow the leader. Each person should go to the end of the line after he or her turn to allow the new leader to do something special.

**TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION:** Visit the following blog post for a tornado craft idea: www.reading.com/el2012/08/battyandotismadewith.html

**READ:** The Rat and the Tiger by Keiko Kasza. Even though Rat and Tiger are friends, Tiger doesn’t always play nice. When he hurts Rat’s feelings, he realizes that he needs to compromise to be a better friend.

**ACTIVITY:** Discuss compromise with students. Allow students to do a think-pair-share brainstorm ways they can compromise. Write their ideas on chart paper to post in the room. Then teach them how to play rock, paper, scissors and introduce this as a compromise strategy. Let students play with their partners. Then put students in groups of 2 or 3 and let them create a “good friend.” They will brainstorm ideas about what makes a good friend and then draw this friend on a piece of paper. They must compromise about what their friend will look like because there will only be one per group.

**Questions about what makes a good friend:**

How will a good friend treat you?

What kinds of things will a good friend do with you?

How will you resolve a conflict with a good friend?

What will a good friend NOT do?

How do you treat a good friend?

**TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION:** Allow students to create their friend using voki.com. They can choose a character to animate and even record something for the friend to say.

**Other titles about being a friend:**

Bootsie Barker Bites by Stephen McCranie.

Each Kindness by Jacqueline Woodson with your class. Chloe and her friends continue to leave out the new girl, Maya. However, Maya is gone before Chloe can show her kindness, and Chloe feels the sting of the lost opportunity.

**ACTIVITY:** As a class participate in the “5 Days of Kindness” activities listed below. Use the prompts to lead the activities.

**DAY 1:** Chloe’s teacher compared kindness to the ripple effect of a stone thrown into water. Write the name of someone that you have not been kind to in the past on a rock. Then put that rock in your pocket. Every time you touch the rock, remember to be kind. At the end of the week, write a journal entry about how the rock made you think about kindness this week.

**DAY 2:** Write a note to someone on the school campus who does things to help you but may not get much recognition, such as cafeteria workers, school nurses, school counselors, custodians, parent volunteers, etc.

**DAY 3:** Do a random act of kindness for someone outside of school. Examples of kind acts could be baking something for a neighbor, helping someone put their groceries in the car, picking up trash around a business or neighborhood, or anything else the class can brainstorm! Take a picture and bring it to school. Make a class collage with all of the pictures.

**DAY 4:** Read a book to a younger child. It can be a younger sibling or someone at school. If you don’t know anyone, ask your teacher to pair you up with a buddy from a younger grade. Write your buddy a note afterward thanking them for the opportunity to read to them.

**DAY 5:** Do something nice for your parents. Do the chores without being asked, write them a letter telling them how much you appreciate them, or prepare them a special meal or snack for them (with supervision of course).

**TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION:** Create a digital wall for the whole class on padlet.com. Post sticky notes on the wall with one thing that they learned or experienced this week. Print the wall and post it in the classroom to refer back to during the year.

**Other titles about being a friend:**


**Play Nice, Be Yourself!**

**READ:** Llama Llama and the Bully Goat by Anna Dewdney with your class. Llama Llama has taught him many new things at school, including how to deal with a situation when someone is not playing nice. When Gilroy Goat starts teasing Llama Llama, he uses the strategies his teacher taught him, and walks away and tells someone. Then, Llama Llama decides he would like the opportunity to be friends with Gilroy Goat.

**ACTIVITY:** Brainstorm ways with your class to handle a bully while still being kind. Then create an acrostic about how to be a good friend.

**F**

**R**

**I**

**E**

**N**

**D**

**Collect All of the Books**

Ages 3–5

**The Story of Ferdinand**

9780060551833 (HC) · 9780060551826 (PB)

Ages 3–5

**Katie Kazoo, Switcheroo: Anyone But Me**

9780670013951 (HC) · 9780670011490 (PB)

Ages 6–8

**Otis and the Tornado**

9780399256578 (HC)

Ages 6–8

**Bootsie Barker Bites**

9780399234163 (HC)

Ages 6–8

**Mal and Chad: Food Fight!**

9780670011483 (HC) · 9780142421208 (PB)

Ages 8–11

**Henry and the Bully**

9780142420959 (PB)

Other books available in paperback (PB):

**Henry and the Bullies**

9780670013967 (HC) · 9780142420973 (PB)

**Otis and the Tornado**

9780803720904 (HC)

**The Story of Ferdinand**

9780399234156 (HC)
**Play Nice, Be Yourself!**

Recommended for Grades K–2, corresponds to the following Common Core Standards: ELA-Literacy.RL.1.2, ELA-Literacy.RL.1.3, ELA-Literacy.RL.1.5, ELA-Literacy.RL.1.6

**READ:** Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon by Patty Lovell with your class. Molly Lou Melon has confidence thanks to her grandmother’s encouragement. As a class talk about all of the things that make Molly Lou special. Ask students: What are some of the things that are special about each of us?

**ACTIVITY:** Have students fill in the boxes below with special characteristics about each of them. Then have them create a poster by drawing a self-portrait and writing all of the things that are special about them around their self-portrait.

- **My Name:**
- **Things I like to do:**
- **My family:**
- **My friends:**
- **Places I like to go:**

Read another title about being yourself! The Story of Ferdinand by Munro Leaf for another book about a character that is not afraid to be himself.

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**Play Nice, Be Yourself!**

Recommended for Grades 3–5, corresponds to the following Common Core Standards: ELA-Literacy.RL.3.4, ELA-Literacy.RL.3.5, ELA-Literacy.RL.3.6, ELA-Literacy.RL.3.7

**READ:** Bully by Patricia Polacco as a class. Lyla moves to a new city and quickly makes a new friend in Jamie. However, when the popular girls start giving her attention, Lyla gives up what is important to her, including Jamie, just to fit in. She soon realizes that being popular may not be worth losing her identity and friendships.

**ACTIVITY:** A class discuss how Lyla feels when she first begins to hang out with the girls from the celebrity table. Ask students, “How do her feelings change when she knows they are picking on other students, including Jamie?” At the end of the book, Patricia Polacco asks, “What would you do?” Ask your students to write an expository paper about the best way to deal with bullying. Use the outline below to guide your class.

1. **Introduction:**
   - Define bullying and provide examples.
2. **Body:**
   - Discuss how bullying affects you personally and how you deal with bullies.
3. **Conclusion:**
   - How do you think your ideas for dealing with bullies can make a difference at your school?

**Other titles about being yourself:**
- Katie Kazoo, Switcheroo: Anyone But Me by Nancy Krulik and Dragonbreath by Ursula Vernon

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**Play Nice, Be a Friend!**

Recommended for K–Grade 2, corresponds to the following Common Core Standards: ELA-Literacy.RL.2.2, ELA-Literacy.RL.2.3, ELA-Literacy.RL.2.4

**READ:** Ots and the Tomato by Loren Long with your class. Ots and the farm animals love to play follow the leader. Each animal leads in a unique way. After reading the book, discuss with your class why the bull decided to join the game. Then, allow students to make a line and play follow the leader. Each person should go to the end of the line after his or her turn to allow the new leader to do something special.

**TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION:** Visit the following blog post for a tomato craft idea: www.readingconfetti.com/2012/06/barnyard-tornado-in-jar.html

**READ:** The Rat and the Tiger by Kako Kazao. Even though Rat and Tiger are friends, Tiger doesn’t always play nice. When he hurts Rat’s feelings, he realizes that he needs to compromise to be a better friend.

**ACTIVITY:** Discuss compromise with students. Allow students to do a think-pair-share to brainstorm ways they can compromise. Write their ideas on chart paper to post in the room. Then teach them how to play rock, paper, scissors and introduce this as a compromise strategy. Let students play with their partners. Then put students in groups of 2–3 and let them create a “good friend.” They will brainstorm ideas about what makes a good friend and then draw this friend on a piece of paper. They must compromise about what their friend will look like because there will only be one per group.

**Questions about what makes a good friend:**
- How will a good friend treat you?
- What kinds of things will a good friend do with you?
- How will you resolve a conflict with a good friend?
- What will a good friend NOT do?
- How do you treat a good friend?

**TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION:** Allow students to create their friend using yoki.com. They can choose a character to animate and even record something for the friend to say.

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**Play Nice, Be a Friend!**

Recommended for Grades 3–5, corresponds to the following Common Core Standards: ELA-Literacy.RL.4.2, ELA-Literacy.RL.4.3, ELA-Literacy.RL.4.4, ELA-Literacy.RL.4.5

**READ:** Each Kindness by Jacqueline Woodson with your class. Chloe and her friends continue to leave out the new girl, Maya. After Chloe’s teacher gives a lesson on the ripple effects of our actions, Chloe begins to feel guilty about the way she has treated Maya. However, Maya is gone before Chloe can show her kindness, and Chloe feels the sting of the lost opportunity.

**ACTIVITY:** As a class, participate in the “5 Days of Kindness” activities listed below. Use the prompts to lead the activities.

**DAY 1:** Chloe’s teacher compared kindness to the ripple effect of a stone thrown into water. Write the name of someone that you have not been kind to in the past on a rock. Then put that rock in your pocket. Every time you touch the rock, remember to be kind. At the end of the week, write a journal entry about how the rock made you think about kindness this week.

**DAY 2:** Write a note to someone on the school campus who does things to help you but may not get much recognition, such as cafeteria workers, school nurses, school counselors, custodians, parent volunteers, etc.

**DAY 3:** Write a note to someone at school who does not always play nice. Do something nice for your parents. Do the chores without being asked, write them a buddy a note afterward thanking them for the opportunity to read to them.

**DAY 4:** Write a note to someone who is new and make a friend collage with all of the pictures.

**DAY 5:** Write a note to a younger child. It can be a younger sibling or someone at school. If you don’t know anyone, ask your teacher to pair you up with a buddy from a younger grade. Write your buddy a note afterward thanking them for the opportunity to read to them.

**TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION:** Create a digital wall for the whole class on padlet.com. Post sticky notes on the wall with one thing that they learned or experienced this week. Print the wall and post it in the classroom to refer back to during the year.

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**Collect All of the Books**

- **Henry and the Bully**
- **Bootsie Barker Bites**
- **The Rat and the Tiger**
- **The Story of Ferdinand**
- **Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon**
- **Bully**
- **Each Kindness**
- **Gilley John is NOT a Chicken!**
- **Buffy and the Bully Goat**
- **Kate Kazao Switcheroo: Anyone But Me**
- **Dragonbreath**

The activities in this kit were written by Emily Felker, EMS. Emily is a fourth-grade teacher and has served on the English Language Arts and Reading committee developing curricula for the district for the past three years.
**Play Nice, Be Yourself!**

**ACTIVITY:**
Have students fill in the boxes below with special characteristics about each of them. Then have them create a poster by drawing a self-portrait and writing all of the things that are special about each of them around their self-portrait.

**My Name:**

**Things I like to do:**

**My family:**

**My friends:**

**Places I like to go:**

**Introduction:**
Define bullying and provide examples.

**Body:**
Discuss how bullying affects you personally and how you deal with bullies.

**Conclusion:**
How do you think your ideas for dealing with bullies can make a difference at your school?

**Recommended for Grades K–2, corresponds to the following Common Core Standards:**
- ELA-Literacy.SL.K.1
- ELA-Literacy.SL.1.1
- ELA-Literacy.SL.2.1

**READ:**
Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon by Patty Lovell with your class. Molly Lou Melon has confidence thanks to her grandmother’s encouragement. As a class, talk about all of the things that make Molly Lou special. Ask students: What are some of the things that are special about each of us?

**TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION:**
Visit the following blog post for a tornado craft idea:


**ACTIVITY:**
Discuss compromise with students. Allow students to do a think-pair-share to brainstorm ways they can compromise. Write their ideas on chart paper to post in the room. Then teach them how to play rock, paper, scissors and introduce this as a compromise strategy. Let students play with their partners. Then put students in groups of 2–3 and let them create a “good friend.” They will brainstorm ideas about what makes a good friend and then draw this friend on a piece of paper. They must compromise about what their friend will look like because there will only be one friend.

**Questions about what makes a good friend:**
How will a good friend treat you?
What kinds of things will a good friend do with you?
How will you resolve a conflict with a good friend?
What will a good friend NOT do?
How do you treat a good friend?

**TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION:**
Allow students to create their friend using voki.com. They can choose a character to animate and even record something for the friend to say.

**Other titles about being a friend:**
- Katie Kazoo, Switcheroo: Anyone But Me by Nancy Krulik and Dragonbreath by Ursula Vemnon
- Bootsie Barker Bites the Book by Stephen McCranie
- Not a Chicken
- Dragonbreath

**Recommended for K–Grade 2, corresponds to the following Common Core Standards:**
- ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.1
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.1

**READ:**
The Story of Ferdinand by Munro Leaf for another book about a character that is not afraid to be himself.

**ACTIVITY:**
Discuss compromise with students. Allow students to do a think-pair-share to brainstorm ways they can compromise. Write their ideas on chart paper to post in the room. Then teach them how to play rock, paper, scissors and introduce this as a compromise strategy. Let students play with their partners. Then put students in groups of 2–3 and let them create a “good friend.” They will brainstorm ideas about what makes a good friend and then draw this friend on a piece of paper. They must compromise about what their friend will look like because there will only be one friend.

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How do you treat a good friend?

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Allow students to create their friend using voki.com. They can choose a character to animate and even record something for the friend to say.

**Other titles about being a friend:**
- Katie Kazoo, Switcheroo: Anyone But Me by Nancy Krulik and Dragonbreath by Ursula Vemnon
- Bootsie Barker Bites the Book by Stephen McCranie
- Not a Chicken
- Dragonbreath

**Recommended for K–Grade 2, corresponds to the following Common Core Standards:**
- ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.1
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.1

**READ:**
Llama Llama and the Bully Goat by Anna Dewdney with your class. Llama Llama is a new friend in Jamie. However, when the popular girls start giving her attention, Lyla gives up what is important to her, including Jamie, just to fit in. She soon realizes that being popular may not be worth losing her identity and friendships.

**INTRODUCTION:**
Define bullying and provide examples.

**BODY:**
Discuss how bullying affects you personally and how you deal with bullies.

**CONCLUSION:**
How do you think your ideas for dealing with bullies can make a difference at your school?

**TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION:**
Visit the following blog post for a tornado craft idea:


**ACTIVITY:**
Brainstorm ways with your class to handle a bully while still being kind. Then create an outline below to guide your class.

**My Friends:**

**Conclusion:**
How do you think your ideas for dealing with bullies can make a difference at your school?

**TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION:**
Visit the following blog post for a tornado craft idea:


**ACTIVITY:**
Have students fill in the boxes below with special characteristics about each of them. Then have them create a poster by drawing a self-portrait and writing all of the things that are special about each of them around their self-portrait.

**My Name:**

**Things I like to do:**

**My family:**

**My friends:**

**Places I like to go:**

**Read another title about being yourself:**
The Story of Ferdinand by Munro Leaf for another book about a character that is not afraid to be himself.

**Technology Extension:**
Visit the following blog post for a tornado craft idea:


**ACTIVITY:**
Discuss compromise with students. Allow students to do a think-pair-share to brainstorm ways they can compromise. Write their ideas on chart paper to post in the room. Then teach them how to play rock, paper, scissors and introduce this as a compromise strategy. Let students play with their partners. Then put students in groups of 2–3 and let them create a “good friend.” They will brainstorm ideas about what makes a good friend and then draw this friend on a piece of paper. They must compromise about what their friend will look like because there will only be one friend.

**Questions about what makes a good friend:**
How will a good friend treat you?
What kinds of things will a good friend do with you?
How will you resolve a conflict with a good friend?
What will a good friend NOT do?
How do you treat a good friend?

**Technology Extension:**
Allow students to create their friend using voki.com. They can choose a character to animate and even record something for the friend to say.

**Other titles about being a friend:**
- Bootsie Barker Bites the Book by Stephen McCranie
- Not a Chicken
- Dragonbreath

**Recommended for K–Grade 2, corresponds to the following Common Core Standards:**
- ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.1
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.1
**Play Nice, Be Yourself!** Recommended for Grades K–2, corresponds to the following Common Core Standards: ELA-Literacy.R.1.1, ELA-Literacy.R.2.1

**READ:** Llama Llama and the Bully Goat by Anna Dewdney. Molly Llama has confidence thanks to her grandmother’s encouragement. As a class talk about all of the things that make Molly Llama special. Ask students: What are some of the things that are special about each of us?

**ACTIVITY:** Have students fill in the boxes below with special characteristics about each of them. Then have them create a poster by drawing a self-portrait and writing all of the things that are special about them around their self-portrait.

**My Name:**

**Things I like to do:**

**My family:**

**My friends:**

**Places I like to go:**

**Introduction:** Define bullying and provide examples.

**Body:** Discuss how bullying affects you personally and how you deal with bullies.

**Conclusion:** How do you think your ideas for dealing with bullies can make a difference at your school?

**Recommended for Grades 3–5, corresponds to the following Common Core Standards:** ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.1

**READ:** Bully by Patricia Polacco as a class. Lisa moves to a new city and quickly makes the things that make Molly Llama special. Ask students: How do her feelings change when she knows they are picking on other students, including Jamie? At the end of the book, Patricia Polacco asks, “What would you do?” Ask your students to write an expository paper about the best way to deal with bullying. Use the outline below to guide your class.

- **F**
  - Define bullying and provide examples.
  - Discuss how bullying affects you personally and how you deal with bullies.
  - How do you think your ideas for dealing with bullies can make a difference at your school?

- **D**

**TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION:** Brainstorm ways with your class to handle a bully while still being kind. Then create an acrostic about how to be a good friend.

**FRIENDS**

**TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION:** Visit the following blog post for a tornado craft idea: www.readingconfetti.com/2012/06/barnyard-tornado-in-jar.html

**Other titles about being yourself:** Katia Kazoo, Switcheroo: Anyone But Me by Nancy Krulik and Dragondeath by Ursula Vernon

**Collect All of the Books**

- Llama Llama and the Bully Goat by Anna Dewdney
- The Rat and the Tiger by Kakko Kozza
- Otis and the Tornado by Loren Long
- The Story of Ferdinand by Munro Leaf
- Mal and Chad: Food Fight!
- Henry and the Bully by Sally Warner
- EllRay Jakes Is NOT a Chicken by Sally Warner and Mal and Chad: Food Fight! by Stephen McCranie

**TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION:** Create a digital wall for the whole class on padlet.com. Post sticky notes on the wall with one thing that you do regularly. Allow students to create their friend using voki.com. They can choose a character to animate and even record something for the friend to say.

**TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION:** Allow students to create their friend using voki.com. You can choose a character to animate and even record something for the friend to say.

**Other titles about being a friend:** Bootie Barker Bites by Barbara Buttrum, Henry and the Bully by Nancy Carlson, Llama Llama and the Bully Goat by Anna Dewdney.
PLEDGE to PLAY NICE!

I pledge that I will **always** play nice with others, **every** day!

DATE ____________________________________________________________

SIGNED __________________________________________________________

BOOKSTORE/CLASS/GROUP NAME ______________________________________

CITY, STATE ______________________________________________________

APPROVED BY THE PENGUIN YOUNG READERS GROUP PLEDGE TO PLAY NICE COMMITTEE