

## be nice.: Empower: You are Special Lesson

### Objectives:

1. Students will learn what empower means
2. Students will identify how to find power within

### Common Core Standards:

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.4.7  
Make connections between the text of a story or drama and a visual or oral presentation of the text, identifying where each version reflects specific descriptions and directions in the text.

### Materials:

1. *Giraffes Can't Dance* by Giles Andreae
2. Sticky notes
3. *I Am Special* hand out

### Motivation:

Ask the students to tell you what empower means to them. Then, have the students brainstorm ways that they can give power to each other to feel good. For example, sharing, smiling, compliment them, or stand up for them. Ask students if they think that they could also take power away from our friends. Brainstorm ideas of how that might happen. For example, leaving them out, calling them names, or use mean hands. Tell the students that today we are going to read a story about someone who is different.

### Development:

Tell the students that while listening to the book, they should be looking for where people's power is coming from. Have sticky notes ready to mark on certain pages where power is coming from. Use stars (positive power from people), dots (negative power from people), or a heart (power from inside their own heart). Explain this to the students.

Read the story. At certain notable parts stop and ask students where the power is coming from and put a sticky note with the applicable sign on that page.

When the story is finished ask students where they want their power to come from? From others giving them stars or dots, or from their own hearts?

### Closure:

Pass out *I am special* hand out and have students color in their hearts. They may fill it with things they like, make a creative design, put words that are positive, or any other way they choose.

I am Special!!

\_\_\_\_\_ 's heart has POWER

