

Meerkat Challenge 2020

Introduction activity: Girls are..... Boys are.....

Draw two big chalk circles overlapping each other on the floor at your hall. Write "girls are", on the one side and "boys are", on the other. Use small paper plates to draw faces on. Above the face write words like funny, kind, cross, scared, proud, calm, brave, strong etc. Give each meerkat one plate.

Each meerkat gets a chance to decide where his plate goes but all plates should end up, with guidance, placed in the centre, indicating that boys and girls are the same. At the end of the activity conclude what Meerkats can see on the interactive diagram.

Diagrams should show that Meerkats are just Meerkats and that there is no difference between girls and boys.

Yarn: The Super Heroes

"Hello", my name is Thando, I am six years old and I am in grade R, at Rosebank Primary School. My teacher is the lovely Miss Smit. I always feel good around her because she listens to me when I speak to her. She respects me! Miss Smit always tells us that we must respect each other because we are all special. Some of us look different, some of us are boys and some of us are girls.

In our class, we can play with any toys, even girl's toys! Last week Tommy and I pretended to be our dad's and looked after the babies while their moms went shopping. It was fun. I have never done that before! I thought that only girls could have fun playing with dolls!

What do you think? Should boys be allowed to play with dolls? Do your dads help your moms look after your younger brothers and sisters?

Today we all did ballet... Yes that is correct! Some boys were saying things like I don't want to do ballet, girls do ballet! Miss Smit said that we should try it before we say that we don't like it. It was weird at first but when we all relaxed and started enjoying the music, I really enjoyed it. Tommy and I have decided to attend ballet lessons on Tuesdays after school.

At break today, we were playing Super heroes on the Jungle gym. Anna asked if Jessica and her could play too. Mark impolitely replied that girls couldn't be super heroes ...they were so angry! Luckily Miss Smit overheard Mark and asked him why he had said that! He said: "Girls are not brave!" Miss Smit told us about a friend of hers that was very brave, this girl had saved her dog from drowning in their swimming pool! Miss Smit said that we are all super heroes to her because we are all brave! Miss Smit then told us to all get dressed into our super hero suits and go and save the world.

Tommy saved a girl from falling out a window, Mark saved a dog from a burning house, Anna saved a boy from downing and I rescued a kitten who had climbed too high in a tree!

That day we learnt that we are all very clever, brave, kind and good. We learnt that we should respect each other and not say someone can't do something just because they are a boy or a girl. Mrs Smit said that we should have mutual respect for each other... she said that means that we must respect others for who they are, even if they look different, dress differently and speak differently. Inside we are all the same.