



Ways to make people feel accepted

*Acknowledge that differences exist.
Learn to understand, not judge, differences.*

People live many different lifestyles and in different family structures. Everyone is unique and carries his or her own set of values and traditions learned from their family, culture, ethnic background, religion, and life experiences.

Appoint an outreach committee of interested parents and teachers who can become knowledgeable about the diverse groups within the community and share the information at unit meetings.

Feature different cultural groups at each meeting and ask parents from that group to help plan and participate in those meetings.

Discuss different traditions or events and let everyone share how they celebrate or practice these in their homes. These can include children's birthdays, body language, dress, and attitudes about parenting and children.

*Remember that attitude “messages”
are sent in nonverbal ways.*

No one is better than anyone else. Knowing a person will make it easier to respect and accept him or her.

Plan activities where members work together as equals. This is a good way to address social and economic issues.

Be aware of members' physical disabilities. Give consideration to event locations, seating, access, and restrooms to accommodate all members.

Truly believe that everyone deserves respect.