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**Songs, Activities and Books To Encourage Compassion And Tolerance In Children**

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| **Open the Circle**, by Frank Hernandez and Ted Warmbrand– This is where we start….  A song to sing while we are gathering for circle time (can be sung as a round) | |
| Open the circle, the time has come.  Open the circle, to everyone.  It’s my circle, without a doubt.  We’ll keep it open ‘til nobody’s left out. | Open the circle, while we are here.  Open the circle, each eye and ear.  It’s my circle, it’s yours as well.  When we’re all in it then our voices can swell. |

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| **The More We Get Together**, folk song  Substitute the word get with different words to emphasize kindness, such as: Smile, work, help, play, sing, dance, etc. |
| The more we get together, together, together…. |

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| **We’re Gonna Build A Brand New World,** by Joanie Calem |
| We’re gonna build, we’re gonna build, we’re gonna build a better world (2x)  With our hands, with our hands, we’re gonna build a better world (2x)  With our hearts, etc  With our minds, etc  With our words, etc  With our eyes, etc  With our ears, etc  With our friends, etc  We’re gonna build, we’re gonna build, we’re gonna build a better world (2x) |

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| **Make New Friends,** camp song |
| Make new friends, but keep the old, One is silver and the other's gold.  A circle is round, it has no end, That's how long I want to be your friend! |

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| **Classroom Hokey Pokey**, adapted by Mara Sapon-Shevin –  What kind of classroom do we want to have?  Have the children decide what else they want to “put in” and what they want to “take out”. |
| You put **kindness** in, You take **meanness** out. You put **kindness** in and you spread it all about.  You do the hokey pokey and your turn yourself around, That's how we change our class.  (Substitute the word kindness for other attributes that the class would like to focus on.) |
| **Ride Away On Your Horses**, traditional folk song, play party game  As the children pretend to be riding horses around the room, they are mixing themselves up. When the songs says “How are you on this lovely day?” they stop and shake hands with the child closest to them. They ride away again, following the lyrics, but the next time they stop, they have to shake hands with someone different.  Perfect for meeting new friends in preschool and early elementary grades. |
| Ride away on your horses, your horses, your horses, Ride away on your horses, ride on, ride on!  Now’s the time to stop and say, how are you on this lovely day? Then off we go! Oh!  (repeat whole song!) |

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| **Floating Down the River**, traditional folk song, play party game  For preschool: At the beginning of the song, the children drift freely around the room, pretending to be floating. When the second part starts, the teacher can call colors, and the children need to jump into the middle of the room if they are wearing that color.  For K – 2: Instead of calling colors in the second part, the teacher can call numbers, and then the children need to jump in groups with that number of children, changing partners each time this part of the song is sung. |
| We’re floating down the river, floating down below, floating down the river to the Ohio!  Red in the middle and we jump, jump Josie, (3x) Oh my Susie Brown.  OR  Four in the middle and we jump, jump Josie, (3x) Oh my Susie Brown. |

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| **It’s the Name of the Game**, by Joanie Calem © January 2016 – accepting one’s classmates  Song and Dance | |
| There are folks of different shapes and sizes everywhere we look:  Remember we don’t judge by the cover of the book.  We’re each a little different, All a lot the same,  And we can get along; It’s the name of the game.  Some folks have blonde hair; Some have black or brown,  Some wear it covered, some wear it down.  We’re each a little different, ….  Some folks are kinda short; Some are kinda tall,  Some are kinda big; Some are kinda small,  We’re each a little different, …. | Some folks are really quiet; some are really loud,  Some are shy and modest, some are very proud,  We’re each a little different, …  Some folks are really slow, some are moving fast,  Some are rushing to the future; some stick to the past,  We’re each a little different, ….  Some folks have dark brown skin;  Some have beige or tan,  Lots of different shades of homo sapiens,  We’re each a little different, ….  We’re all a little quirky in slightly different ways  And every one of us has both good and bad days  We’re each a little different, …. |

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| **Looking For A Friend,** Traditional Chinese Folk Song |
| Looking, looking, looking for, I look for a good friend.  I bow to you, I shake your hand, I smile at you, I dance with you,  Let’s dance together, dance together, and good-bye! |

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| **Going For A Walk On A Tuesday Morning**, by Nancy Hershatter |
| Going for a walk on a Tuesday morning, Tuesday morning oh so fine,  Going for a walk on a Tuesday morning, won't you be a friend of mine?  And come for a walk on a Tuesday morning, Tuesday morning oh so fine,  Come for a walk on a Tuesday morning, won't you be a friend of mine? |

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| **We’ve Got the Whole World In Our Hands**, traditional folk song  With an inflatable earth ball, pass the ball around while singing. Try not to drop the world! |
| We’ve got the whole world in our hands, (4x)  We’ve got people over here in our hands, we’ve got people over there in our hands,  We’ve got people everywhere in our hands, we’ve got the whole world in our hands.  We’ve got people who are beige in our hands, we’ve got people who are brown in our hands,  We’ve got people all around in our hands, we’ve got the whole world in our hands.  We’ve got people who are old in our hands, we’ve got people who are young in our hands,  We’ve got everyone in our hands, we’ve got the whole world in our hands.  We’ve got people who can’t hear in our hands, we’ve got people who can’t see in our hands,  We’ve got folks like you and me in our hands, we’ve got the whole world in our hands.  We’ve got people who are sad in our hands, we’ve got people who are scared in our hands,  We’ve got folks from here and there in our hands, we’ve got the whole world in our hands.  We’ve got people can’t read in our hands, we’ve got people who can’t talk in our hands,  We’ve got people who can’t walk in our hands, we’ve got the whole world in our hands.  We’ve got people who need homes in our hands, we’ve got people who need food in our hands,  We’ve got folks like me and you in our hands, we’ve got the whole world in our hands.  We’ve got the whole world in our hands, (4x)  We’ve got the whole world in our hands, (4x) |

**Picture Books for Community Building and Inclusion:**

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| All Cats Have Asperger Syndrome, by Kathy Hoopmann  All In The Woodland Early, by Jane Yolen  All Kinds of Strong, by Sharon Reiss Baker  Always Room for One More, by Sorche Nic Leodhas  Arnie and His School Tools, by Jennifer Veenendall  Big and Little are Best Friends, by Michael Garland  Bubble Gum Brain: Ready, Get Mindset...Grow! by Julia Cook  But Names Will Never Hurt Me, by Bernard Waber  Coat of Many Colors, by Dolly Parton  Come With Me, by Holly M. McGhee  Chrysanthemum, by Kevin Henkes  Don’t Call Me Special, by Pat Thomas  Don’t Laugh At Me, by Steve Seskin  Do Unto Otters, by Laurie Keller  Each Kindness, by Jacqueline Woodson  Feathers and Fools, by Mem Fox  Grandfather and I, by Helen E. Buckley  Grandmother and I, by Helen E. Buckley  Growing Peace, by Richard Sobol  Hannah’s Way, by Linda Glaser  Have You Filled A Bucket Today? By Carol McCloud  Hello World! By Manya Stojic  Horrible Bear, by Ame Dyckman  I Can Be Anything!, by Diane Dillon  If You Plant A Seed, by Kadir Nelson  I’ll Wait Mr. Panda, by Steve Antony  I’m in Love With A Big Blue Frog, song by PPM  I See Things Differently, by Pat Thomas  Inside Asperger’s Looking Out, by Kathy Hoopmann  It’s Okay to Make Mistakes, by Todd Parr  Listen to the Wind, by Greg Mortenson  Little Blue Truck, by Alice Schertle  Last Stop On Market Street, by Matt De La Pena  My Friend Isabelle, by Eliza Woloson  My Mouth Is A Volcano, by Julia Cook  No Two Alike, by Keith Baker  Not All Princesses Dress in Pink, by Jane Yolen  Otis and the Scarecrow, by Loren Long  Quick as a Cricket, by Audrey Wood  Red and Yellow’s Noisy Night, by Josh Zelig  Rock What Ya Got, by Samantha Berger  Safe in a Storm, by Stephen R. Swinburne  Say Hello!, by Linda Davick  Say Hello! By Rachel Isadora  Stand In My Shoes, by Bob Sornson | The Color of Things, by Vivienne Shalom  The Colors of us, by Karen Katz  The Crayon Box That Talked, by Shane DeRolf  The Empty Pot, by Demi  The Invisible Boy, by Patrice Barton  The Kindness Quilt, by Nancy Elizabeth Wallace  The King With Six Friends, by Jay Williams  The Mitten String, by Jennifer Rosner  The Name of the Tree, by Celia Barker Lottridge  The Nice Book, by David Ezra Stein  The Only One Club, by Jane Naliboff  The Other Side, by Jacqueline Woodson  The Peace Book, by Todd Parr  The Rooster Prince of Breslov, by Ann Redisch Stampler  The Shady Tree, by Demi  The Shema In the Mezuza, Listening to Each Other, by Rabbi Sandy Eisenberg Sasso  The Way I Feel, by Jana Cain  The World Turns Round and Round, by Nicki Weiss  Those Shoes, by Maribeth Boelts  We All Sing With the Same Voice, by J. Philip Miller  We Can Get Along: A Child's Book of Choices, by Lauren Murphy Payne  Welcome, by Barroux  We’re All Special, by Arlene Maguire  We’re All Wonders, by R. J. Palacio  What Do You Do With A Problem? By Kobi Yamada  What’s The Difference, by Doyin Richards  Whose Garden Is It? By Mary Ann Hoberman  Why Does Izzie Cover Her Ears, by Jennifer Veenendall  Personal Space Camp, by Julia Cook  What Does It Mean to Be Kind? by Rana DiOrio  Yaffa and Fatima, by Fawzia Gilani-Williams   |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | |