



IDENTITY WEB ACTIVITIES



About **PEOPLE LIKE US**

We all want a meaningful role in life, but people with disabilities are often given no part to play. At People Like Us, we believe the performing arts are key to teaching children with developmental differences life skills they'll carry into adulthood.

All while having fun!

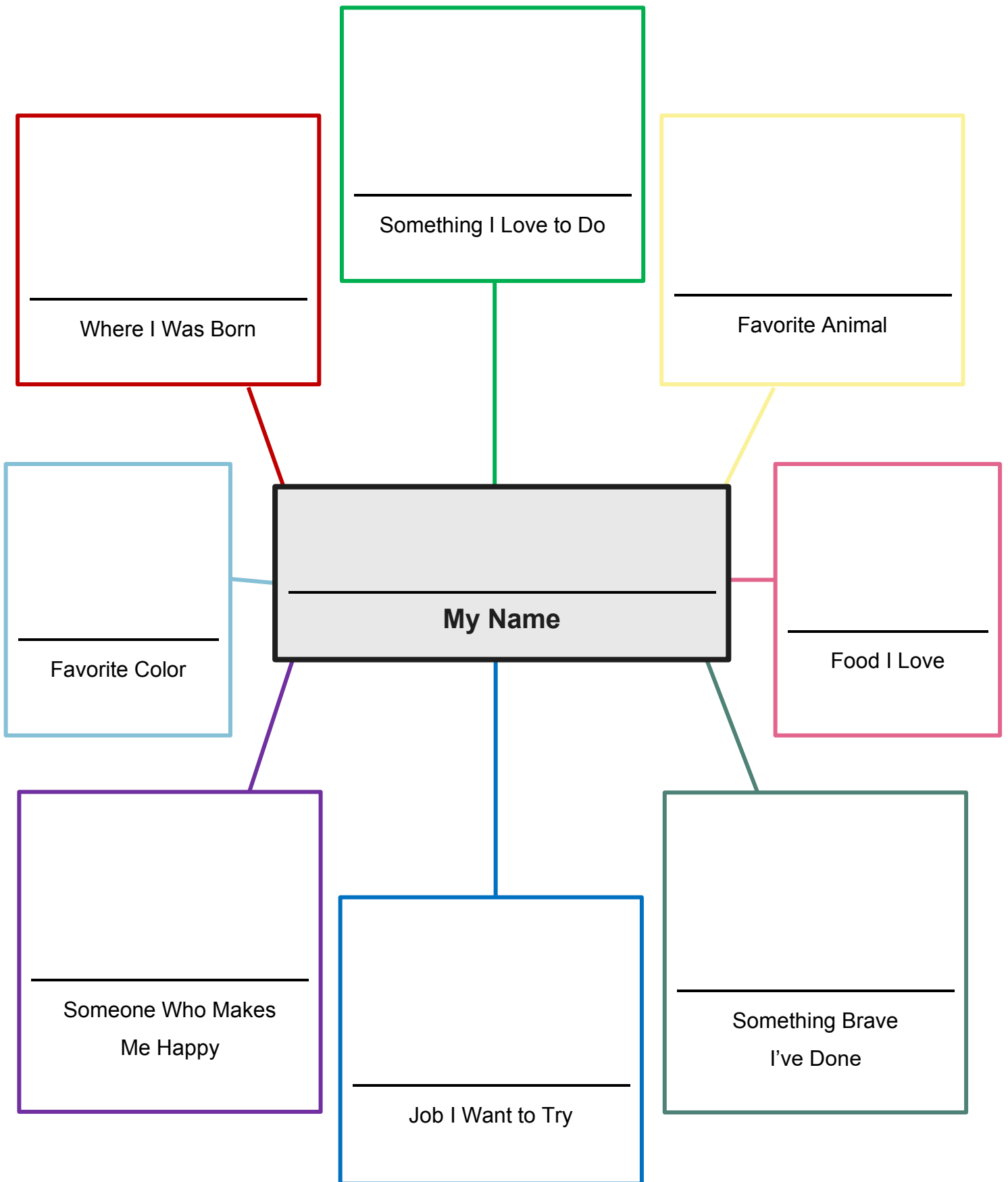
Making your classroom or theater more inclusive doesn't have to be complicated. A few small changes can create a lifelong impact. By implementing the People Like Us curriculum, your students will gain improved social and communication skills, increased self-regulation, and workforce readiness.

And platforming these performers is a critical exercise in self-advocacy, helping students transform their own - and society's - expectations.

Whether you're looking for curriculum, lesson plans, a few activities, or a full consultation, we'll give you the support you and your students deserve. Find out more by emailing us at info@peoplelikeusdoc.com or visiting us at PeopleLikeUsDoc.com.

Sincerely,





IDENTITY WEB SEQUENCE

Objective

By creating a movement sequence that symbolizes parts of one's identity, students are combining self and body awareness.

Self-awareness includes the ability to understand aspects of yourself, including traits, behaviors, and feelings. Increasing self-awareness can help people to understand their emotional triggers, know their boundaries, and stay true to themselves. Proprioception, or body awareness, is one's ability to understand where their body is in space. Increasing body awareness can help people to improve their posture, stability, self-regulation, and coordination.

In this lesson, students will use an identity web to build self-awareness, connect with others, and create original choreography.

Goals

Develops sharing, listening, relationship building, interpersonal connection and communication, critical thinking, self-awareness, body awareness, conceptualizing artistic ideas, personalizing art, independence, choice-making, creativity, character development, improved participation

Materials

- Identity web for each participant
- Pens or pencils
- Magazines, photos, or images (optional)
- Scissors (optional)
- Glue (optional)

Directions

Make a Web

Allow adequate time for your students to fill out their identity webs with images or words. Pair TAs with students who may find it challenging to fill out a web on their own.

Sharing and Sequences

1. Ask each student to share a fact from their identity web.
2. Ask each student to create a dance move inspired by that fact.
3. Encourage students to combine movements inspired by their web to make an original sequence.
4. Partner students with one another, asking them to combine a move from their own web with a move from their peer's web.
5. Add music.

Character Development

Once your students are cast in a production, encourage them to create an identity web for their character.

1. Compare webs. Share one similarity and one difference between you and your character.
2. Perform a move as you normally would. Then, perform it as your character.
3. Create a sequence by combining moves inspired from your character's web.

Modifications

Level Down

- ↓ Offer [choice boards](#) for the web
- ↓ Pre-make a web for each student
- ↓ Use [Movement choice board](#)
- ↓ Share a recorded performance

Level Up

- ↑ Students combine their sequence with a partner's sequence to make a longer dance

Reflection

How do your dance moves represent aspects of your identity?

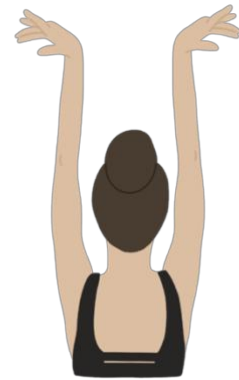
MOVEMENT BOARD



JAZZ HANDS



ROLL NECK



REACH ARMS



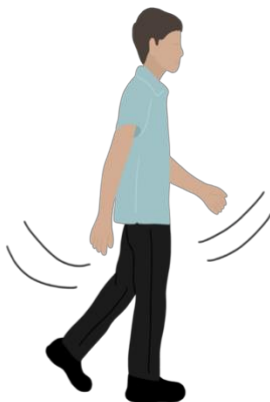
SKIP



BEND



JUMP



SWING



SPIN



MARCH

Other Resources

Teaching Strategies for Students with Disabilities Self-Paced Course and Curriculum

Learn practical strategies for engaging students with disabilities in mainstream or self-contained learning environments. Content focuses on best practices for educators who serve students with exceptionalities, and explores nontraditional and kinesthetic methods, like those in the performing arts, to engage all your students. Deep dive into topics like differentiation, scaffolding, and sensory sensitivities.

Teaching Movement to Students of All Abilities Self-Paced Course and Curriculum

Getting students up and moving is an effective, non-verbal way to level the playing field and facilitate meaningful social bonds. Learn how to use creative movement to develop proprioception, fine and gross motor skills, cultural awareness, self-regulation, and sequencing. The first half of the course explores movement theory and differentiation, while the second half teaches twenty-one activities you can use with your students immediately.

Teaching Theater to Students of Varied Abilities Self-Paced Course and Curriculum

Sitting at a desk all day isn't good for any learner, particularly a learner with disabilities. Learn how to develop self and social awareness through putting on a production. Curriculum emphasizes expressive and receptive language skills, literacy, self-efficacy, independence, and classroom collaboration. Plus, you'll learn twenty-nine activities you can use with your students right away!

Teaching Music to Students with Exceptionalities Self-Paced Course and Curriculum

When students engage in music-related activities, they develop a better mind-body connection and feel more a part of their community. Music offers academic benefits, too: increased standardized test scores, better performance in math and reading, and improved classroom behavior. Discover just how simple it can be to incorporate music into your lesson plans and create a more engaging learning environment for all your students.

Folklore and Fairy Tales Adaptable Script Collection, People Like Us, Inc., 2017



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