Drawing with Mr. J!
An Animal Race

Today's challenge is “an animal race.” Mr. J invites students to draw along as they explore the importance of including others. He discusses how sharing our emotions and experiences is important.

**Ohio SEL Standards**
These activities align with Strategy number 7 of Ohio's Strategic Plan for Education, Each Child, Our Future, which focuses on working to help schools meet the needs of the whole child.

- **Social Awareness:**
  C3. 3.a: Discuss the concept of, and practice, treating others the way you want to be treated
  C1. 1.a: Identify facial and body cues representing feelings in others
- **RRelationship Skills:**
  D2. 2.a: Recognize the need for inclusiveness

This video aligns with Ohio’s Early Learning and Development Standard, Social & Emotional Development, Self-Awareness 1.b. Develops understanding of emotions and Relationship Skills 4.b. Develops socially competent behavior with peers. (Pre-Kindergarten).

**View and Sketch:** 5 minutes
Distribute sticky notes or small scraps of paper to your students and allow them to sketch along with Mr. J as they watch the video. We encourage you to share students’ work on Twitter @WOSU_Classroom #DrawingWithMrJ.

**Chat:** 5-10 minutes
After viewing the video with the class, choose 1-2 discussion questions to work through in whole or small groups or as a writing prompt.
- Help students identify emotions. What emotions do you experience when you are not included in someone else’s fun?
- Identify what prompts our emotions. Why do you think you experience strong emotions when you are not included? What are you thinking about?
- Promote awareness and/or empathy. What is one thing you can do to make sure others feel included in your fun?
Read: 10 minutes
Use these picture books to spark continued conversation with students about the feelings discussed in the video.
- *Strictly No Elephants* by Lisa Mantchev
- *Can I Play Too?* by Mo Willems
- *The Cool Bean* by Jory John and Pete Oswald

Share: (Home to School Connection)
To strengthen the home to school connection, keep families informed about the work happening in the classroom. Feel free to copy or adjust the following message to include in class newsletters.

Today, your child learned about including others, and considered what it feels like when you have not been invited or included in someone’s fun. Our class discussion focused on:
- Help students identify emotions. What emotions do you experience when you are not included in someone else’s fun?
- Identify what prompts our emotions. Why do you think you experience strong emotions when you are not included? What are you thinking about?
- Promote awareness and/or empathy. What is one thing you can do to make sure others feel included in your fun?

We encourage you to continue the conversation at home. There are many wonderful books that explore rules and expectations. A few that we recommend include:
- *Strictly No Elephants* by Lisa Mantchev
- *Can I Play Too?* by Mo Willems
- *The Cool Bean* by Jory John and Pete Oswald

Extend:
- Give everyone a sticker name tag to wear for a day, so that everyone in the school community can greet one another by name. Hearing our name said out loud helps us feel included.
- As students enter the cafeteria, randomly give them a slip of colored paper that instructs them to sit at a different table and have conversations with other students than their usual tablemates.
- Role play how to invite others to play games and how to ask to join in others’ fun.
- Introduce the concept of being an Includer. As a class, brainstorm the words and actions of someone who includes others. Challenge students to use these skills in their relationships with their classmates.
- PBS for Kids Games with Emotions (for younger students) [pbskids.org/games/feelings](http://pbskids.org/games/feelings)