

Take-Home Family Kit

Companion to the Upper Elementary Teacher Guide



Everything for independent work and home: a family letter, a Teach Your Family challenge, a BELONG acrostic poem, the 3.21 Cipher, a challenge word search, a photo prop sign, and conversation cards. Includes a teacher page on using Myth or Fact? in class, plus an answer key.

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FOR TEACHERS

Building the kit

Use these pages for early finishers, independent work time, or a take-home packet sent about a week before your celebration.

PUT IN EACH FOLDER

- ☐ Family letter
- ☐ Teach Your Family + a copy of **Learn One Thing**
- ☐ BELONG Acrostic Poem
- ☐ The 3.21 Cipher
- ☐ 3.21 Word Search
- ☐ Photo prop sign
- ☐ Photo guide + return slip
- ☐ Conversation cards
- ☐ **Keep:** the answer key (last page)

ASSEMBLE & ASSIGN

- 1 Copy**
Copy the student pages plus **Learn One Thing**. Keep the answer key for yourself.
- 2 Assign**
Use the cipher, word search, and acrostic in class. Send **Teach Your Family** home as homework.
- 3 Collect**
Teach Your Family is due on your celebration day. Share a few in morning meeting.

MAKE IT WORK FOR EVERY FAMILY

- Everything works without a printer or special supplies at home.
- Offer copies in families' home languages when you can.
- Make home pages optional or low-stakes, and celebrate what comes back.

USING "MYTH OR FACT?" (FROM THE TEACHER GUIDE) IN CLASS

- 1 Before the lesson**
Give it as a pre-assessment: what do students already believe?

SAY
Just circle your best guess. No grades, just thinking!
- 2 Four corners**
Use the statements for the four-corners activity in the lesson.
- 3 After the lesson**
Students redo it in a different color pen and compare.
- 4 Bust a myth**
Students pick one myth and explain why it's wrong in writing.

Answer key is on the last page of this kit. **Extension:** Students create their own Myth or Fact? card to quiz their family.

A NOTE FOR FAMILIES

We're celebrating 3.21!



Dear Families,

This week our class is celebrating **World Down Syndrome Day** (March 21). We learned the science: people with Down syndrome have **three copies of chromosome 21**, which is why the date is 3/21. It's nobody's fault, it isn't contagious, and it happens in every kind of family.

We also busted common myths and talked about the difference between being *in the room* and being truly **included**. Each student made a plan to help someone feel like they belong.

1. Learn

Let your child **teach you** three facts from Learn One Thing.

2. Talk

Use the conversation cards at dinner or in the car.

3. Rock & share

Wear mismatched socks and share a feet photo with **#Celebrate321**.

OUR ROCK YOUR SOCKS DAY

Wear fun, mismatched socks on: _____

ASK YOUR CHILD

"What's a myth about Down syndrome that you busted?"

"What's your inclusion move this week?"

Thank you for celebrating with us! — _____

Free family activities are at Celebrate321.org.

STUDENT PAGE • TAKE HOME

Teach Your Family

Read the Learn One Thing fact sheet, then teach your family THREE facts in your own words. They have to pass your quiz!

Fact #1 I taught:

How I explained it (a drawing, example, or demo):

Fact #2 I taught:

How I explained it (a drawing, example, or demo):

Fact #3 I taught:

How I explained it (a drawing, example, or demo):

Quiz time! Did your family get it?

FAMILY MEMBER	FACT 1	FACT 2	FACT 3
	☐	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐

Grown-up signature: _____

STUDENT PAGE

BELONG Acrostic Poem

Write a word or phrase for each letter about what belonging means to you. Try to make every line connect to inclusion!

Name: _____

B

E

L

O

N

G

Example: Being invited · Everyone gets a turn · Listening to each other... **Bonus:** try C-E-L-E-B-R-A-T-E on the back!

STUDENT PAGE • PUZZLE

The 3.21 Cipher

In this code, every letter is a multiple of 3 (A = 3, B = 6, C = 9...). Crack the message! **Name:** _____

A 3	B 6	C 9	D 12	E 15	F 18	G 21	H 24	I 27	J 30	K 33	L 36	M 39
N 42	O 45	P 48	Q 51	R 54	S 57	T 60	U 63	V 66	W 69	X 72	Y 75	Z 78

Secret message

 12 27 18 18 15 54 15 42 60 36 45 45 33 57

 21 45 45 12 24 15 54 15

Math check

If a letter's code is 63, what letter is it? (Hint: $63 \div 3 = ?$) _____

What's the code for the word SOCK? _____

Write your own secret message for a friend

Use the 3.21 cipher. Keep it kind!

STUDENT PAGE • PUZZLE

3.21 Word Search

16 words: across, down, diagonal, and even backwards!

Name: _____

E	T	A	R	B	E	L	E	C	L	N	R	E	V	N
H	B	S	G	A	S	T	R	E	N	G	T	H	S	H
K	C	I	T	R	D	H	A	S	B	E	L	O	N	G
I	O	F	B	E	J	V	O	F	M	Y	J	S	K	R
N	M	P	B	N	R	W	O	O	J	K	I	P	U	T
D	M	L	I	T	F	E	S	C	F	J	E	M	C	G
N	U	G	U	D	C	O	O	N	A	L	G	E	F	F
E	N	E	I	P	M	O	O	T	E	T	P	K	G	T
S	I	Y	M	O	S	I	R	T	Y	S	E	A	P	O
S	T	Y	R	K	S	J	N	U	E	P	D	P	N	E
O	Y	H	C	U	V	K	J	R	B	E	E	P	T	H
U	C	O	L	F	R	I	E	N	D	S	H	I	P	J
T	S	C	V	Y	M	A	R	C	H	C	C	F	R	E
L	N	Y	J	T	A	G	C	G	E	U	Q	I	N	U
I	H	A	R	T	X	E	E	L	I	U	T	E	E	A

ADVOCATE

INCLUSION

CHROMOSOME

TRISOMY

STEREOTYPE

BELONG

UNIQUE

RESPECT

STRENGTHS

FRIENDSHIP

CELEBRATE

SOCKS

COMMUNITY

KINDNESS

MARCH

EXTRA

Challenge: Pick three words and use them all in one sentence about 3.21.



We Rock Our Socks for 3.21!

Different Looks Good Here

#Celebrate321



FOR FAMILIES

Your family sock photo

One quick photo helps show your whole community is showing up for people with Down syndrome.

TAKE THE PHOTO

1

Socks on!

Everyone picks two socks that don't match.
Pets welcome too!

2

Feet in

Sit in a circle with feet in the middle, or line up on the couch.

3

Shoot from above

Stand over the feet and snap. No faces needed!

4

Add the sign

Lay the photo prop sign in the middle, or hold it up.

SHARE IT SAFELY

- Feet photos keep things private and still look great.
- Use first names only (or none). Skip school names and locations.
- Only share photos of other kids with their family's okay.
- Use **#Celebrate321** so everyone can see the celebration!

CAPTION TO COPY

"We rocked our socks for World Down Syndrome Day! 3/21 stands for three copies of chromosome 21, and we're celebrating because different looks good here. #Celebrate321"

THREE EASY PHOTO IDEAS



The feet circle

Everyone's toes in the middle



The couch line-up

Feet up, oldest to youngest



The sock surprise

Socks on a pet or stuffed animal!

OPTIONAL: RETURN TO SCHOOL

Our family's sock story

How we celebrated 3.21:

Student's name: _____

Tape a photo or draw your family's socks here!

CUT APART • KEEP IN THE CAR OR ON THE FRIDGE

Conversation cards



IN THE CAR

What's a stereotype about kids your age that isn't true?

Grown-ups: share one about YOUR age too!

AT DINNER

What's the difference between being included and just being there?

Share an example from school or work.

AT BEDTIME

Who did you include today?

Or: who could you include tomorrow?

ANYTIME

Why do you think people say "a person WITH Down syndrome"?

Talk about why word order matters.

GETTING DRESSED

What would your perfect 3.21 socks look like?

Draw them on a napkin!

AT DINNER

What's a strength you see in each person at this table?

Go around. Everyone gets one.

WATCHING A SHOW

Is anyone in this show different from you? Are they shown fairly?

Look for stereotypes together.

ANYTIME

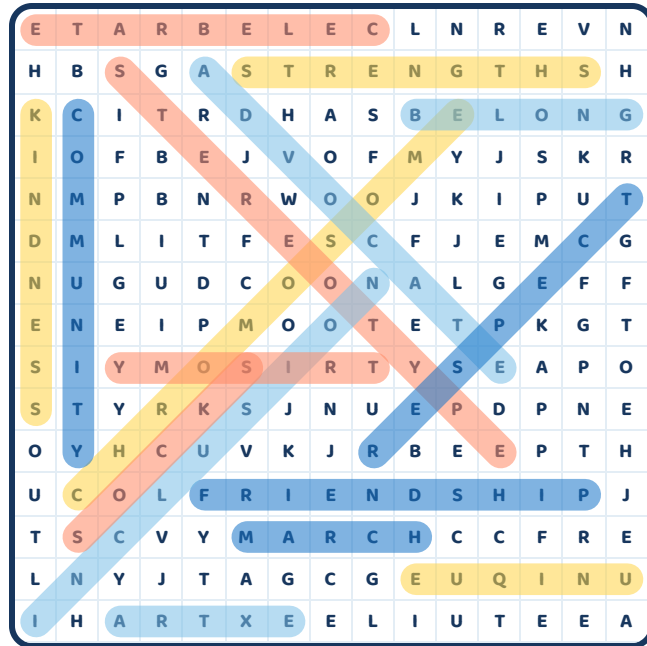
What would you say if you heard someone use a hurtful word?

Practice a kind but clear response.

FOR TEACHERS • KEEP THIS PAGE

Answer key

3.21 WORD SEARCH



3.21 CIPHER

Message: DIFFERENT LOOKS GOOD HERE

63 = U · SOCK = 57 45 9 33

MYTH OR FACT? (TEACHER GUIDE STUDENT PAGE)

1-M · 2-F · 3-M · 4-F · 5-F · 6-M · 7-F · 8-M

CHROMOSOME MATH (TEACHER GUIDE)

23 pairs · 46 chromosomes · 47 · March 21 (3/21)

CHROMOSOME SOCK MATH (ACTIVITY LEADER GUIDE)

46 · 47 · 1,104 · 42 · 7 and 107

SAMPLE BELONG ACROSTIC (TO MODEL)

Being invited to play

Everyone gets a turn

Listening when others talk

Open seats at every table

Nobody left out

Glad you're here!

WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN "TEACH YOUR FAMILY"

- Facts are accurate and in the student's own words
- At least one fact uses the 3/21 or chromosome idea
- Student explained it with a drawing, example, or demo
- Grown-up signature = the teaching happened. Celebrate it!