

TEACHER COMPANION • INDIVIDUAL & TAKE-HOME

Take-Home Family Kit

Companion to the Preschool Teacher Guide



Everything to send home so families can celebrate 3.21 with their preschooler: a ready-to-copy family letter, a simplified sock game, drawing pages, a photo prop sign, and conversation cards. There's also a teacher page on building the kit and using the My Sock Friends page in class.

WHAT'S INSIDE

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| 1 Teacher page: building the kit | 2 Family letter |
| 3 Little Sock Sorters game | 4 Draw Your Fun Sock |
| 5 Find the Sock with Three! | 6 Photo prop sign |
| 7 Family sock photo guide + return slip | 8 Conversation cards |

Building the take-home kit

About 20 minutes of prep for the whole class. Send it home about one week before your celebration so families have time to join in.

PUT IN EACH FOLDER OR ZIP BAG

- ☐ Family letter (p. 3)
- ☐ Little Sock Sorters game (p. 4)
- ☐ Draw Your Fun Sock (p. 5)
- ☐ Find the Sock with Three! (p. 6)
- ☐ Photo prop sign (p. 7)
- ☐ Family sock photo guide + return slip (p. 8)
- ☐ Conversation cards, cut apart (p. 9)
- ☐ **Optional:** a pair of fun or mismatched socks, a sticker, or the child's garland sock

ASSEMBLE IT

1**Copy**

Copy pages 3–9 (single-sided). Cut the conversation cards apart or leave them whole.

2**Label**

Write each child's name on the folder and fill in your Rock Your Socks date on the letter.

3**Send**

Send home about one week before 3.21. Mention it at pickup too!

MAKE IT EASY FOR EVERY FAMILY

- No printer or socks at home? Everything in the kit works with what's in the folder.
- Offer copies in families' home languages when you can.
- Returning the photo slip is optional. Never required.

USING THE "MY SOCK FRIENDS" STUDENT PAGE IN CLASS

1**Introduce it**

Hold up the page at circle time.

SAY

These socks lost their partners! Can you help them find their match?

2**Model one**

Draw a line to match the first pair while kids watch. Trace it in the air together.

3**Support as needed**

Point to the patterns ("stripes... where are more stripes?"). Hand-over-hand or pointing is fine.

4**Draw a friend**

Kids draw themselves and a friend in fun socks. Write their words: "Tell me about your picture!"

Extension: Early finishers can do **Find the Sock with Three!** (p. 6). It's also great for a second day at centers.

A NOTE FOR FAMILIES

We're celebrating 3.21!



Dear Families,

This week our class is celebrating **World Down Syndrome Day**, which happens every year on **March 21**. The date stands for **3** copies of chromosome **21**: people with Down syndrome have an extra copy of chromosome 21.

At preschool we're keeping it simple and joyful. We've been playing sock games, singing, and learning that **everybody is different, and everybody belongs**. Your child may come home singing: *"Red sock, blue sock, one, two, three! Everybody's different, and that's okay with me!"*

1. Play

Try the **Little Sock Sorters** game with socks from your laundry basket.

2. Create

Draw a fun sock together and write down what your child says about it.

3. Rock & share

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

OUR ROCK YOUR SOCKS DAY AT SCHOOL

Wear fun socks on: _____

No fun socks? No problem. We'll have spares at school!

ASK YOUR CHILD

"Why was the sock with three special?"

"What makes YOU special?"

Thank you for celebrating with us! — _____

Free family activities (sock games, coloring, fact sheets) are at **Celebrate321.org**.

FAMILY GAME · AGES 3-5 · 10 MINUTES

Little Sock Sorters

A super-simple sock game for little ones, with a surprise that teaches something big.



Step 1

Make a sock pile

Grab 5-10 pairs of socks from the laundry. Grown-up secret: add **one extra** sock that matches a pair, so one set has **three**.



Step 2

Find the partners

Take turns finding matching socks and laying them side by side. Name what you see: “Stripes and stripes!” “Blue and blue!”



Step 3

Wait... THREE?!

When your child finds the set of three, act surprised! Then say: “*Some people have a little extra too, like people with Down syndrome. Is this still a great sock? YES! Different is good!*”



Step 4

Pick a silly pair

Now everyone chooses two socks that **DON'T** match and puts them on. Do a sock dance and sing: “*Red sock, blue sock, one, two, three! Everybody's different, and that's okay with me!*”

MAKE IT EASIER (AGE 3)

Use just 3-4 pairs with very different colors. Sort by color first.

MAKE IT HARDER (AGE 5)

Add more socks, use a timer, or play “mystery bag”: match by feel only!

DRAW IT · COLOR IT · SHARE IT

Draw Your Fun Sock!

Artist: _____



GROWN-UPS: ASK “TELL ME ABOUT YOUR SOCK!” AND WRITE THEIR WORDS HERE

Share your sock on social media with the hashtag

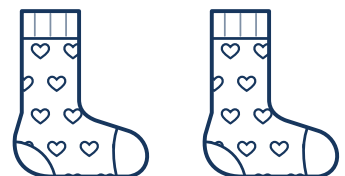
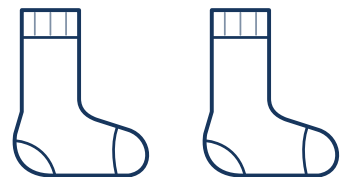
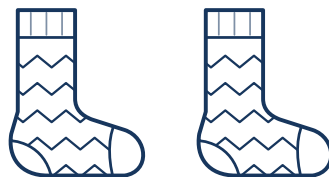
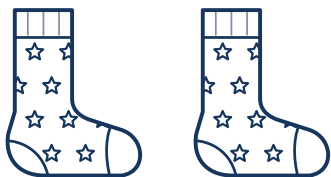
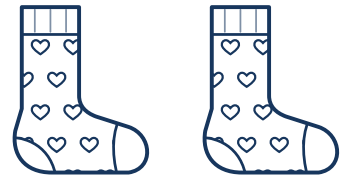
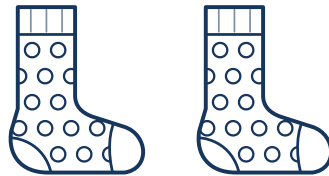
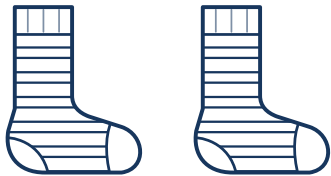
#Celebrate321

LOOK & FIND

Find the Sock with Three!

Most socks come in pairs. One sock has THREE! Can you find it? Circle it, then color all the socks.

Name: _____



Talk about it: The sock with three is still a great sock! People with Down syndrome have a little extra too, and **different is good.**



We Rock Our Socks for 3.21!

Different Looks Good Here

#Celebrate321



FOR GROWN-UPS

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 have your child hold it.

SHARE IT SAFELY

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

CAPTION TO COPY

"Our family 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"

OPTIONAL: RETURN TO SCHOOL FOR OUR CLASS WALL

Our family's sock story

How we celebrated 3.21:

Child'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 makes YOU special?

Share what makes them special to you too!

AT DINNER

What's something that makes each of us different?

Go around the table. Everyone answers.

AT BEDTIME

Who did you play with today?

Ask: "Did anyone play alone? What could we do next time?"

AT THE PARK

How can we ask someone new to play?

Practice: "Do you want to play?"

GETTING DRESSED

Should we wear socks that match or don't match today?

On 3.21, the answer is DON'T match!

ANYTIME

How do you feel today? Show me your face!

Everybody has feelings, and all feelings are okay.

READING TOGETHER

Is anyone in this book different from you? How?

Different is good! What's the same?

ANYTIME

What's something you can't do... YET?

Cheer together: "You can do it! Keep on trying!"