



Drawing with Mr. J!

Magical Friends

Today's challenge is "magical friends." Mr. J invites students to draw along as they identify how we experience empathy. He discusses how sharing our emotions and experiences is important and a first step in honoring someone else's perspective.

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:**
C1.3a. Define empathy and identify empathetic reactions in others
- **Relationship Skills:**
D.1.1.a: Identify and engage in positive communication skills
D.3.3.a: Apply listening and attention skills to identify the feelings and perspectives of others

This video aligns with Ohio's Early Learning and Development Standard, Social & Emotional Development, 1.b. Develops understanding of emotions and Social Awareness, 3.a. Develops empathy toward and understanding of others (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.

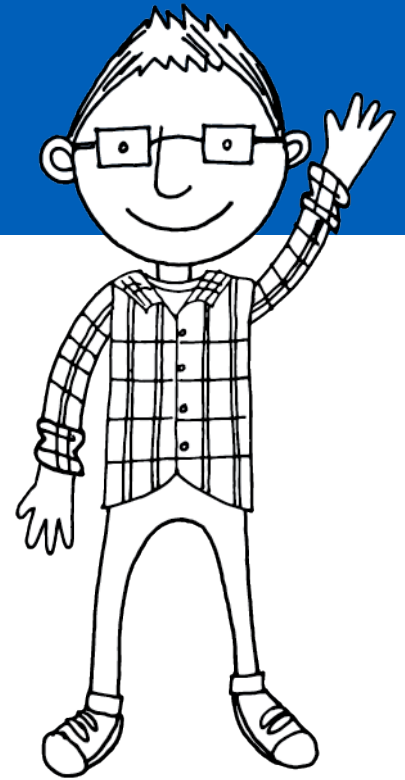
Chat: *5-10 minutes*

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. When was a time someone acted in a way that showed they had empathy for you and were trying to understand your perspective, feelings, or experience?
- Identify what prompts our emotions. When was a time that you and a friend did not agree on something? Were you able to listen to each others' perspective or was this more of a challenge?
- Promote awareness and/or empathy. How can you show more empathy to friends and family members? How can you show empathy to people you don't know personally?



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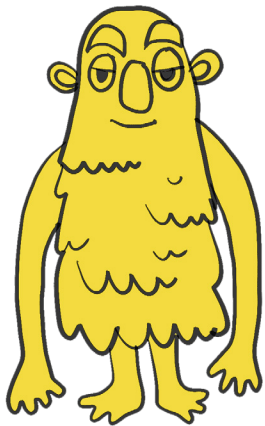
Read: 10 minutes

Use these picture books to spark continued conversation with students about the feelings discussed in the video.

- *I Am Human* by Susan Verde and Peter H. Reynolds
- *The Rabbit Listened* by Cori Doerrfeld
- *The Smallest Girl in the Smallest Grade* by Justin Roberts and Christopher Robinson
- *What is Empathy?* by Amanda Morin and John Joseph

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 empathy and listening to the perspectives of others. Our class discussion focused on:

- Help students identify emotions. When was a time someone acted in a way that showed they had empathy for you and were trying to understand your perspective, feelings, or experience?
- Promote awareness and/or empathy. How can you show more empathy to friends and family members? How can you show empathy to people you don't know personally?

We encourage you to continue the conversation at home. There are many wonderful books that explore empathy. A few that we recommend include:

- *I Am Human* by Susan Verde and Peter H. Reynolds
- *The Rabbit Listened* by Cori Doerrfeld
- *The Smallest Girl in the Smallest Grade* by Justin Roberts and Christopher Robinson
- *What is Empathy?* by Amanda Morin and John Joseph

Extend:

- Secret Kindness Missions: Give students a challenge to complete anonymously, such as writing thank you cards for a staff member, words of encouragement for a student in another class, or drawn images for younger students in the school.
- Share a Rose and a Thorn: Students share one positive (rose) and one challenge (the thorn) they are experiencing either at school, or beyond. Practicing listening to one another can prompt empathy and provide a unique perspective into other's experiences.
- Play emotion charades. Students act out different emotions for others to identify without using words or sounds. The viewers then discuss how they feel when they see someone experiencing the emotion they just identified.
- PBS for Kids Games with Emotions (for younger students) pbskids.org/games/feelings.