



# Elementary School Events & Activities

## Classroom Activities

- Show the "[What is Rare Disease Day?](#)" video.
- Download and print this [coloring sheet](#). Ask students to color in the hands and hang up all the handprints on a bulletin board in the hallway to raise awareness of Rare Disease Day.
- Show off your classroom's support of Rare Disease Day by participating in Handprints Across America! Take a picture and share it in the [Handprints Across America 2017 Gallery!](#)

## Bullying & Acceptance

There are more than 30 million people affected by rare diseases and children are the large majority. Many children with rare diseases face bullying and lack of peer acceptance- teach your students about bullying, acceptance, and breaking down social barriers.

- Ask the students discussion questions:
  - What is a bully? How does a bully act?
  - Have you ever been bullied? How did it make you feel?
  - What should you do if you see someone being bullied?
- Define what bullying means.
  - Teasing
  - Talking about someone
  - Spreading rumors
  - Leaving kids out on purpose
- Explain to children that people may look different, talk different, and think differently- but they have the same feelings as you.
- Explain to children the concept of classmates always eating together- if someone is alone, join them or invite them to your table.
- Encourage students to sit with someone different and get to know each other.
  - Explain to the students that this can eliminate bullying and social isolation in the classroom.

Questions? Write to NORD at [education@rarediseases.org](mailto:education@rarediseases.org).