



RARE DISEASE DAY®

# Middle School Events & Activities

## Classroom Activities

- Watch "[What is it like to have a rare disease?](#)" video.
- Invite a [Patient/Caregiver Speaker](#) to come to your classroom and share their story.
- Complete the [Rare Disease Day Crossword Puzzle](#), [Rare Disease Day Trivia](#) or [Rare Disease Day Word Search](#).

## Social Media

- Ask the students to change their Facebook or Twitter profile picture to show support for Rare Disease Day. Encourage them to use [Rare Disease Hashtags!](#)
- 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 represent half of that population. Many children with a rare disease face bullying and lack of peer acceptance- teach your students about bullying, acceptance, and breaking down social barriers.

- Watch "[A Brave Heart: The Lizzie Velasquez Story](#)", a documentary on a woman with rare congenital disease overcame bullying to become a motivational speaker.
- [Read](#) how Jono Lancaster's battles his rare disease and bullying with a positive attitude.

Consider joining these programs:

- [No One Eats Alone](#)
- [Wingman League](#)

## National Institutes of Health Middle School Curriculum

The NIH has created a curriculum supplement for Rare Diseases and Scientific Inquiry targeted at 6-8. According to the NIH website, students explore how scientist inquiry to research rare diseases and treatments and to further understand the workings of the human body. The supplement contains two weeks of lessons that are easily integrated in the curriculum and are aligned to national and state standards. Learn more [here](#).

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