

National AccessAbility Week - Morning Announcement Ideas

National AccessAbility Week commences on May 28th and the Rick Hansen Foundation School Program (RHFSP) has created some suggested morning announcements you can use in your school!

Inspired by Rick Hansen's historic Man In Motion World Tour, this is an important occasion to celebrate and promote the inclusion of people with disabilities.

Each suggestion below includes a fact about the week or a different physical disability. We encourage you to share these with your administration to help celebrate this important week with your students.

Secondary Grades

Monday

Options:

1. Did you know that this week is National AccessAbility Week? it is an important week for Canadians to come together to celebrate, highlight, and promote inclusion and accessibility for people with disabilities in our schools and communities.
2. Did you know that promoting inclusion and accessibility is an important part of the social justice movement? 1 in 5, or 6.2 million Canadians have a disability, which includes people with mobility, vision loss, or are hard of hearing. This week is National AccessAbility Week – a time to promote equal opportunities and create a more accessible society for everyone. Let's take some time this week to learn more about accessibility and remember – even the smallest of actions can have a big impact on creating a more equitable world!

Tuesday

Accessibility and disability inclusion is an important aspect of the social justice movement. You can help advocate for the rights of people with disabilities by speaking up when you see a barrier, like entryways with no ramp or bathrooms that are too small for a wheelchair to fit.

Wednesday

Options:

1. Did you know that service dogs are trained to perform a specific task? Some can help a person with vision loss navigate the world. Some help those who are hard of hearing by alerting their handler to a specific sound, such as a knock at the door.
2. Service dogs are special animals and play an important role in assisting people who are blind, deaf, or have mobility disabilities. It's important to remember that they are working and shouldn't be pet or distracted when on the job because they need to focus on their tasks. By respecting service dogs, we can ensure they are able to do their best work possible! You can spot a service dog when they are working by the vest they are wearing.

Thursday

A common myth is that all Deaf people use American Sign Language (ASL). There are actually hundreds of identified sign languages used around the world! For example, ASL and la Langue des Signes Quebecoise (LSQ) are national languages in Canada. All these languages are recognized as their own language.

Friday

Options:

1. What does rapper Wiz Khalifa, classical composer Beethoven, and former NHL defenseman Jim Kyte all have in common? They all have a disability! Just because it's the end of National AccessAbility Week, we should be promoting equal opportunities and create a more accessible society for everyone every day! We can all do our part in creating a world where everyone can go everywhere.
2. Tomorrow is the last day of National AccessAbility Week! We encourage you to continue to challenge myths about people with disabilities and keep learning long after this week is over.