Celebrating Our Differences with Zara and Leo

Learning objective: To understand that everyone is unique and special, and to value the differences that make our community a happy place.

Read the questions with an adult and talk about what makes you, and your friends, special. Write your answers or draw your ideas in the boxes below.

Zara the zebra has beautiful stripes that are all her own. Leo the lion has a golden mane and loves to write poems. Even though Zara and Leo look different and have different hobbies, they are the very best of friends. They know that a classroom is like a garden; it is much more beautiful when there are many different kinds of flowers growing side by side.

Word bank: kind · unique · friend · different · special · together

1. Zara and Leo have different patterns and talents. If everyone in our class looked and acted exactly the same, would it be as much fun? Why? (2 marks)

2. Think of one thing that makes you special. It could be your hair, your favourite game, or a language you speak. Write or draw it here. (2 marks)

3. If a new child joined our class who spoke a different language or played different games, what is a kind way we could welcome them? (2 marks)

4. Look at your friends in the room. Can you name one thing that is the same about you (like both liking to play outside) and one thing that is different? (2 marks)

5. Why is it important to be kind to everyone, even if they do things differently than you do? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of yourself playing with a friend. In your drawing, show one thing that makes you unique and one thing that makes your friend unique.

Extension challenge: Ask an adult to help you find three things that you and your family members do differently at home, such as favourite meals or favourite bedtime stories, and share them with the class tomorrow.