Ready4Success Toolkit Activities

Activity Title:	Learning Domain:
Giraffes Can't Dance Kind/Unkind	Social Emotional

Learning Objective/Rationale for Activity:

Children will identify kind and unkind words, phrases and actions from the book in a playful way, which will help them show regard for the feelings of their friends in class and help them understand what kind words sound like.

Early Learning Content Standard(s) Met:

Recognize and identify own emotions and the emotions of others.
Express concern for the needs of others and people in distress.
Show regard for the feelings of other living things.

Materials:	Activity Type:
Giraffes Can't Dance book Kind/Unkind monkey faces	Large Group

Activity Description:

This activity is most successful during the second reading of the story. Pass out laminated pictures of the happy/sad monkey faces to each child in the group. Explain to the children that as you read the story *Giraffes Can't Dance,* they will hold up the monkey cards when the animals are being kind or unkind to Gerald in the story. The children will hold up the happy monkey face when the animals are being kind and the sad monkey face when the animals are being unkind. After reading a statement from the book you can prompt the children by saying "Do you think the animals were being kind or unkind?" For example:

- When the animals said, "Oh, Gerald, you're so weird." they were being… *children hold up the sad monkey face.*
- When the animals said, "Gerald's the best dancer we've ever seen," they were being…
- When the animals laughed at Gerald, they were being…

Continue prompting the children until they are able to hold up the card independently. After the reading, ask the children to use the cards to determine if other statements that are relevant to the classroom are kind or unkind. For example, you can say:
- When a friend says, "that looks amazing! You are a great artist!" they are being…
- When I say, "you almost had it, keep trying!" I am being…
- When I say, "go away, we don't want to play with you," I am being…
- When I share with a friend, I am being…
- When I push a friend away from what I want, I am being…

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