

## November Guidance - The Human Race

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Today I joined your student's classroom, and we talked about the social construct of "race" and discussed how people are more alike than different because we belong to one, big family called the human race!



We also emphasized that it's important to get to know people for who they are and not make judgements based on "race" or color, and we ended the lesson with students drawing a self-portrait that includes things that are important to them: family, traditions, customs, hobbies, favorite foods, etc.

Our guidance lesson supports McKinney ISD's LiveKind Initiative by developing the kindness-building skill of

**collaboration:** navigating differences and taking appropriate risks to work effectively with others.

*Home connection: With your child, list as many similarities people across Texas...America...the world have with one another. Then reaffirm all of the things that make him/her special and unique.*

If you want resources to tackle more personal conversations with your children about race, this QR Code links to PBS Kids' page entitled "Talking to Young Children about Race & Racism". It includes a  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour video of authentic conversations about racism between children and their parents; tons of articles; children's books about race and racism; a video for children with the character, Arthur, talking to his teacher about racism; student activities; and a read along.



Remember, I am also available for consultation appointments to discuss your child's individual needs or concerns.

Sincerely,  
*Christie Thompson*  
Christie Thompson, School Counselor  
[cthompson@mckinneyisd.net](mailto:cthompson@mckinneyisd.net)  
469-302-5437