

Entrance



Visitors will:

- Become familiar with exhibit concepts and content.
- Understand the sensitive nature of the subject matter and the target age range.

Description:

Large graphic panels introduce caregivers and children to exhibit subject matter, content, and the definitions of prejudice and discrimination. This area also includes credit and sponsor signage, the exhibit's target age range and a panel explaining that certain exhibit areas include strong language and experiences. A panel will also communicate that for the optimum exhibit experience the Museum encourages caregivers and children to explore the exhibit together and for adults to look for the special *Caregiver Labels* posted throughout the exhibit.

“We are fortunate to have Chicago Children’s Museum’s Face to Face: Dealing with Prejudice and Discrimination here at this time. Parents and teachers are seeking ways to encourage unity and cultural understanding at a time when children naturally want to find out ‘who did it,’ and are seeing terrible instances of unwarranted blame and hatred against school children and shop owners who are believed to be from the Middle East.” Carol Enseki, CEO of Brooklyn Children’s Museum, referring to events after September 11, 2001.



Kids Bridge



Visitors will:

- Explore various approaches to dealing with prejudice and discrimination by examining the experiences of other kids.
- Develop empathy for victims of prejudice and discrimination, and enhance their understanding of how this might affect their own behavior. Feel that they are not alone in being victims of prejudice and discrimination.

Description:

This area features a series of seated computer/video stations where visitors can explore the Boston Children's Museum's *Kid's Bridge* video interactive. The video features children's stories of prejudice and discrimination and provides the visitor with the opportunity to explore, via computer, how these kids responded to these experiences and their feelings about the situations.



■ Name That Stereotype

Visitors will:

- Learn to recognize and dispel stereotypes.
- Learn that stereotypes are negative and that people should not judge others by how they look or the group to which they belong.
- Learn that both adults and kids use stereotypes.

Description:

This area features *Name That Stereotype* which is a video interactive game show led by a lively host. To play, the visitor watches any one or all of four dialogues on the screen and pushes a button when a stereotype he/she hears a stereotype mentioned. The host responds whenever the visitor catches or misses a stereotype.



“Personally, my wife and I want my kids to see Face to Face because we want them to be able to live and thrive in an increasingly diverse world,” says Adam Bernstein of the Charlotte national Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ), a sponsor of the exhibit in Charlotte, NC. “We want them to cherish diversity, not just tolerate people different from themselves. The interesting thing is that every kid had some story to tell about exclusion. That’s why we feel it is going to be so powerful; it’s relevant to everyone that comes in here.”



Peace Diner



Visitors will:

- Learn that name calling is a form of prejudice and discrimination and explore their emotions about being victims of name calling.
- Learn that they can do something about it when they are victims of name calling and learn specific strategies for handling it.
- Learn that it is not okay to call others names.
- Gain tools for helping children deal with name calling.

Description:

This area includes two activities. The first takes place in any one of a series of *Power Tool Stations* designed to accommodate small caregiver/child groupings. Visitors sit and, with headphones, listen to an audio tape of name calling. An instructional video advises visitors to participate in a role playing exercise using a variety of tools and strategies for dealing with name calling. These strategies are written on cut-outs shaped as shields. Children choose the tools with which they are most comfortable and place these on a “power pack” in front of them. They should then role play these responses with a caregiver.

The second activity in the *Peace Diner* is the *Name Shredder* where visitors can write a hurtful name down on a slip of paper and then feed it into a paper shredder and watch it be destroyed. *Caregiver labels* accompany this component.



School Bus Showdown

Visitors will:

- Understand that exclusion is a form of prejudice and discrimination and that being a silent bystander is comparable to being a perpetrator.
- Develop empathy by seeing the consequences of behaviors that exclude others.
- Realize that they can – and feel empowered to – make appropriate choices in these kinds of situations.
- Understand that it is normal to be afraid of going against the group and that it is brave to stand up for a victim of exclusion.



Description:

The *School Bus Showdown* consists of a seated interactive video station. The video features a school bus scene in which a child is being heckled while looking for a seat and no one is letting him sit down. Six kids have room in their seats for him – three scoot over and three do not. The visitor then chooses from a series of 'rewind' buttons to explore the reason each child had for letting or not letting the excluded child sit down. The kids' thoughts reveal conflicting emotions about the decisions they made. Two kid hosts will discuss the conflicting issues, reiterating that it's hard to go against the group and you've got to be brave, but sometimes it's important to do the right thing.

The area also includes a response board where visitors can add their own thoughts on being a bystander, post any strategies they may have for standing up for a peer, and respond to the individual children featured in the video. *Caregiver labels* accompany this component.



Turn and Learn About Differences

Visitors will:

- Explore differences through exposure to a collection of diverse images of people.
- Understand that it is okay to have and express questions about differences.
- Learn appropriate answers to common questions children have about differences.
- Observe children's choice of playmates when faced with a broad spectrum of people from which to choose.

Description:

This area contains a two-sided component modeled after the popular children's toy "See and Say." This enlarged version of the game is upright and includes photos of many diverse individuals. The visitor pulls the lever, the arrow spins and lands on a person who then, through audio, might dispel a myth about the group he/she belongs to or describe an accomplishment despite a physical disability. For example, a child with leg braces might explain that she uses the braces to walk better since her legs are not strong enough to stand on their own. A *Caregiver label* accompanies this component.



“Face to Face introduces children to the many differences among us all, whether it be our physical abilities, our religious, cultural, racial or social background, and how to recognize discrimination and stereotyping that may result from these differences. We really have a fine program here that we hope will reach as many students as possible,” said Linda Burr executive director of the National Conference for Community and Justice – Charlotte region.



■ Telling Our Stories, Testimonial Video & Resource Area

Telling Our Stories

Visitors will:

- Learn how other kids have felt, struggled and dealt with incidents of prejudice and discrimination.
- Have the opportunity to share their own experiences and feelings of dealing with these difficult issues.
- Learn that creative expression takes a variety of forms, such as art, writing, and music, and that each one can be a powerful means of communicating feelings and experiences.



Description:

This component features a collection of kid's written accounts of personal experiences as well as examples of other forms of creative expression relating to the subject of prejudice and discrimination. A work station provides visitors with the opportunity to write their own accounts and experiences to add to the collection in a binder. A *Caregiver label* accompanies this component.

Testimonial Video

Visitors will:

- Learn how kids have felt, struggled and dealt with a wide range of incidents of prejudice and discrimination.

Description:

A large screened monitor shows short video clips of children telling real stories of prejudice and discrimination and explaining how these experiences have affected them. This area includes seating.

Resource Library

Visitors will:

- Explore a variety of resources including storybooks, pamphlets, magazines, bibliographies and curricula pertaining to the issues of prejudice and discrimination.
- Respond to the exhibit and its content.

Description:

This exhibit area includes comfortable seating and bookshelves and is a place to sit, read, and discuss.



Talk Back Board

Visitors will:

Have a chance to provide the museum with feedback on their own experiences.

Description:

Visitors can add their comments to an ongoing bulletin board against prejudice and discrimination. A *Caregiver label* accompanies this component.



Taking A Stand Pledge

Visitors will:

Feel inspired and empowered to take action against prejudice and discrimination. Understand that working together and speaking out are important keys to fighting prejudice and discrimination.

Description:

Visitors can sign their names to an ongoing petition against prejudice and discrimination and pledge to help stop it.

A *Caregiver label* accompanies this component



■ Signs of the Times

Visitors will:

- Gain an historical perspective of prejudice and discrimination through studying historical signage and photographs.
- Learn that prejudice and discrimination are ongoing issues our countries have faced throughout their historical development.
- Understand that prejudice and discrimination have affected the lives of many individuals and groups throughout our countries' histories.



Description:

This area features reproductions of actual signs representing instances of prejudice and discrimination throughout the history of the United States and Canada. Each sign is accompanied by an historical photograph placing it in its original context and a label describing the event or situation. Life-size photo cut-outs of children are featured here as well. The kids appear to be responding to the signs they are reading on the wall.

An additional feature to this exhibit area highlights an extensive list of the groups of people that have suffered persecution and discrimination throughout the history of the U.S. and Canada. This list explains that the following groups have been “locked out, shut in or had the door slammed in their faces” and is accompanied by a variety of photos, some of familiar or famous faces, of individuals that fall into the groups represented.

“One of the most powerful tools that has been found in classrooms to help decrease stereotypes and prejudicial behavior is empathy. We want to help children gain a perspective of another person, help them identify with the feelings and thoughts of other people.” Dr. Kim Dell’Angela, a psychologist and adviser in the development of Face to Face.



■ Personal Power Charger Station

Visitors will:

- Learn that in order to stand up for what you believe in, you must believe in yourself.
- Explore why they feel good about themselves and what they can personally do to make a difference.

Description:

A crafts area, this activity takes place around a work counter designed to accommodate three to five visitors at a time.

At this station kids can make *Personal Power Chargers* which take the form of origami fortune tellers and include prompting statements such as, "I am proud because I am..." and "I have the power to..." Kids complete the statements and have a tool to keep that reminds them of reasons they should feel good about themselves.



"I think part of the fun comes in with the sort of empowering exercises like the Name Shredder, the Power Charger Station. It's sort of like giving back the power to the kids and letting them get some strategies to deal with these kind of situations when they encounter them." Cecilia Palazola, director of education at the Children's Museum of Memphis

