



## The New Boy

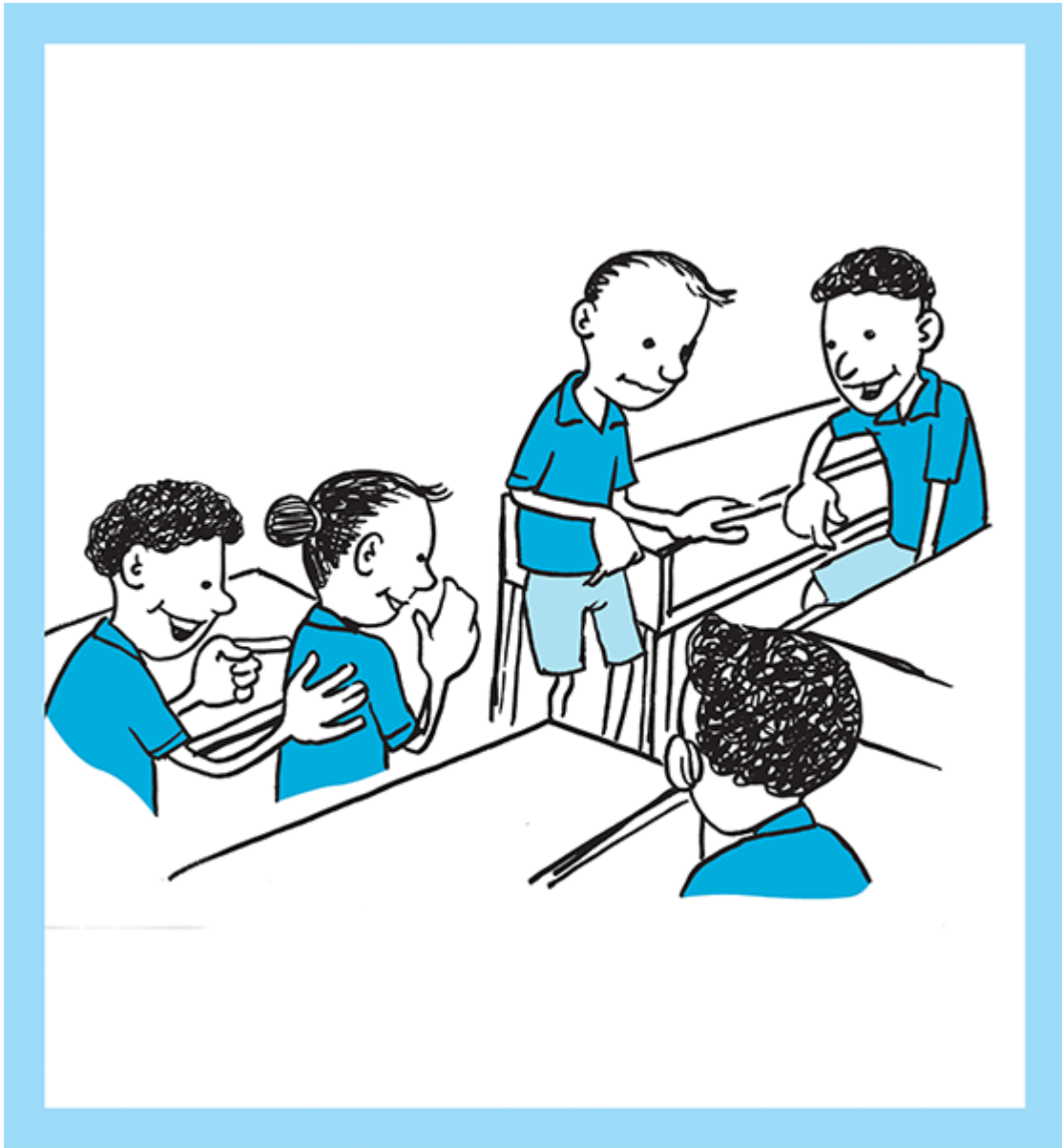
The new boy has a disability. Some children laugh. Manu cannot kick a ball but there is something he can do. What makes the children shout and cheer?



The New Boy  
Tandi Jackson



"This is Manuel. He's from Rigo," said the teacher. "Please make him feel welcome."



Manu looked different. Some children giggled. As he walked to his seat, they saw that he was disabled. He sat next to Peter.



At lunchtime Manu sat down under a tree. Some children looked at him. They laughed and giggled. Peter saw the new boy. He went over to him.



"Hi Manu," he said. "I'm Peter." "Hi," said Manu shyly. "Do you want to kick the ball with me?" asked Peter.



"I can't kick," said Manu. "That's okay," said Peter. "We can shoot some baskets." Manu got up and went with Peter. "He looks different!" laughed Maria. "He walks in a different way, too!" laughed Tom.



Joe came over to Maria and her friends. "Don't be unkind," he said. "Manu is just like us."





Just then they heard shouting and cheering. They looked over at the playground. Manu was shooting baskets. The other boys were counting.  
38 - 39 - 40 - 41 - 42



Then the bell went. "Manu, you are very good at shooting baskets," said Peter. "Can you teach me to shoot baskets like you do?" "Yes," said Manu smiling, "It's easy."



Comprehension Questions 1. Where is Manu from? 2. What things can we do to welcome a new student to school? 3. How do you think Manu felt when the children laughed at him? 4. Why was Manu sitting by himself at lunchtime? 5. Who went over to talk with Manu? Why? 6. Why did Peter and Manu decide to shoot baskets? 7. In what way is Manu different to the other children? 8. What did Joe say to Maria and her friends? Do you agree with Joe? 9. Why did the boys shout and cheer? 10. What is Manu going to teach Peter? Activity Class discussion: How can we help each other and learn from each other?



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