Walk A Mile

AIM To better understand the problems of being a handicapped person.

The two daughters in Na-See-Natchez paid for their unkind behavior. The "wet boy" could not help the way he was, just as many people cannot help how they look, what skin color they have or what handicaps they may have.

Indian people believe that all life has the potential for bringing forth beauty. Every blade of grass, every four-legged brother, every two-legged brother, every element of the earth, of the air and of the water has a reason for being and seeks to do great things - create beauty.

When someone is different, try to understand. Most people do not choose to be that way. If you were to live their life as they do - walk a mile in their moccasins - for a while, you might begin to understand how that person feels.

Pretend you are a person with a broken leg. Think of the problems you might have.

Write "I can't stand it when..." (and finish the sentence) Combine all the sentences to make an I Can't Stand It poem.

GREAT SPIRIT, GRANT THAT I MAY NOT CRITICIZE MY NEIGHBOR UNTIL I HAVE WALKED A MILE IN HIS MOCCLASIN.
You need all your senses to be aware of your physical environment. How alert are your senses?

You will need an Elder for this activity.

1. The Elder should blindfold the family member(s). Each member should have an Elder for a guide or go in a group hanging onto hands.

2. Follow the Elder on a journey through the school or outdoors. Stop along this journey and relax. The first time you stop use only your nose. Name three things that you smell.

3. Continue on your journey, stopping occasionally to touch, hear, or taste. The last sense you should use is your sight. Open your eyes! Continue on your journey.

4. When you return from your journey, discuss how it felt to use only one of your senses at a time.

5. Now try forming letters to words using the hand alphabet for the deaf. Divide into pairs and take turns spelling a word, having your partner guess.