

Physical Disability

Discussion

Do you know anyone, either a friend or in your family, who is physically disabled.

Have they become disabled through ageing/accident/or were they born disabled.

What do they need to help them in their daily lives; Wheelchair? Stick? Crutch? Stair lift?

Have you ever been unable to do things because of any of the following; broken limb/ hospitalisation/ operation?

What things did you need help with? (Washing yourself, bathing, carrying bags, eating, going up and down stairs, dressing yourself etc.)

What things did you miss doing most? What frustrated you? Embarrassed you? Annoyed you? Did you enjoy some of the attention?

Did you feel lonely? Discriminated against? Did you feel jealous as you were unable to part-take in games/swimming/physical activities etc.

Have you ever had to push someone in a wheelchair around town/ shop/school? Was it fun /difficult?

Could a physically disabled person.(wheel-chair bound) part-take in your school timetable and activities?

What problems would a person with a wheelchair or crutches have in getting to school and then moving around in your school environment. Is the building suitable?

Famous people with physical disability.

Find out about famous people in the past who were disabled President Roosevelt, Toulouse –Lautrec,

How were people viewed with disability in the past? Why did people such as the president of USA try to hide their disability?

Find out about present day famous people with disability; Heather Mills, Christopher Reeve, Tani Grey-Thompson, Stephen Hawking, Itzhak Perlman.

Find out about sportsmen and women with disabilities and how they compete in the Paralympics.

Oscar Pistorius has two artificial legs and wants to run against able-bodied athletes in the Olympics.

Do you think this is fair?

Ideas for written work

Write about a day in your diary when you were in hospital/in plaster/ill in bed.

Write about visiting someone who is ill/in hospital/old people's home. (Mention sounds, smells, and feelings etc.)