



HADDS GOES TO SCHOOL

Awareness Day



Why should I host a HADDS Awareness Day at my child's school?

HADDS Awareness promotes a learning environment that is inclusive and accepting of differences and helps peers better focus on the commonalities. February is HADDS Awareness month and given that majority of those affected with HADDS are school age, it's important to promote dialogue that conveys the themes of love, kindness and acceptance of HADDS children and their disabilities throughout the month.

Help! I am not sure where to start in hosting a school campaign.

This is only the 2nd year we are promoting a HADDS Awareness Days in school, so you aren't alone! Below is an initial checklist to get you started. We've also included starter guide of potential ideas with different age groups in mind to jump start your creativity!

Does the Foundation help with logos, giveaways and support?

Yes! Once you have secured a day, email info@HADDS.org and we can send high-res logos to use for materials, provide a few branded giveaways as door prizes or gifts for school administrators and offer support or answer any questions you may have in order to facilitate an impactful day!

February is HADDS Awareness Month!





CHECKLIST

- Obtain School Approval _____
- Set a date! _____
- Email info@HADDS.org _____
- Brainstorming Session _____
- Recruit Help (teacher, friends) _____
- Awareness décor & signage _____
- Give event details to school _____
- Promote event at school _____
- Host event & post photos! _____



Need Ideas?

1. **Abled: Same But Different** story time! Use the book and/or Cathleen Morita's **Abled Recording** to talk about inclusion and all the ways individuals with HADDS are the same but different! Book Reading Link: <https://youtu.be/8BHFIYvbx8Q>
2. YouTube Videos on DNA / Inclusion or film your own video! (All Ages)
3. Build a double helix with candy or other snacks (All Ages – though more for elementary)
4. Use fabric or construction paper to weave blue and green paper into #HADDSplaid art. Share the symbolism of the plaid for our community.
5. Host a fundraising competition between grades to see which class can raise the most, then reward with a pizza party or something fun



6. Have students wear plaid to school and/or distribute HADDS Plaid disposable face masks to class (Amazon!) and take photos of classmates surrounding your HADDS child
7. Have a sensory center, where peers can have sensory simulated events (loud headphones, one lens in one out glasses, wheelchair/walker, one shoe off/on one for balance sim, strobe light, speak only using device (ask speech therapist in school for help, etc)
8. Make HADDS child "King/Queen" for the day
9. HADDS logo printed cookies & themed items
10. HADDS Show & Tell or Q&A
11. Aloha HADDS! Abled Luau-themed Awareness Party



Ask your child if they feel comfortable having a HADDS Awareness Day at school and if they do, ask what ideas **they** may have to help others better understand HADDS. Getting them involved and ensuring they feel comfortable with the ideas is empowering! Is there another rare-disease child in class? **Make it a joint awareness campaign!**

