

# Ontario Dress Purple Day: Lesson 2



## Activity: Touch Skits

**Grade Range:** Grades 3-5

**Task Time:** 30-40 minutes

**Activity Objective:**

The purpose of this activity is to use drama to demonstrate how different kinds of touch can make us feel, and the importance of getting help from an adult.

**Materials Needed:**

- Paper for children to write down their lines for their skits as needed

**Activity Description:**

1. Gather the whole class to introduce activity. Tell the children that they will be working in small groups to explore how different types of touch can make us feel. Elaborate and talk about how different kinds of touch can lead to different emotions:
  - *Some kinds of touch make us feel good and happy. Can you think of a touch that makes you feel good and happy?*
  - *Other kinds of touch can make us feel uncomfortable, anxious, or angry. Can you think of a touch that makes you feel these things?*
  - *Emphasize that we, as individuals, get to decide how a touch makes us feel.*
2. Divide the children into small groups of 4-6 and have them brainstorm together a skit that depicts:
  - *A touch that makes a character feel hurt, angry, sad, frightened, strange, or uncomfortable*
  - *How the characters will get help*
3. Circulate from group to group to give feedback and provide support.
4. Give the small groups about 10-15 minutes to plan and rehearse their skits. Make sure the skits are appropriate and **emphasize to the class that there is no actual touching** – they are only acting out the actions (e.g., acting out a push “in the air” rather than actually physically pushing someone).
5. When all the groups have finished rehearsing, gather the whole class together and have each group perform the skit.
6. After each group performs, engage the class in a discussion about the skit:



- *What kind of touch was illustrated here? How did it make the person being touched feel?*
- *How did the characters handle the situation? Could something have been done differently?*
- *Who can the person who experienced the touch talk to if the touch hurt them or made them uncomfortable?*

7. At the end, ask the whole class to volunteer answers to the following question:

- *What would you do if someone touched you and asked you to keep it a secret?*
- *Who can you talk to when someone has hurt you or made you feel uncomfortable?*

8. Remind the children that there are no secrets about any kind of touch, and to keep telling until you get the help you need.

**Comments and/or Additional Resources:**

- Reminder: Facilitator has a legal duty to report suspected child abuse and neglect. Please refer to "Guide for Education Professionals" for in-depth information on identifying signs of abuse and neglect, and Duty to Report.