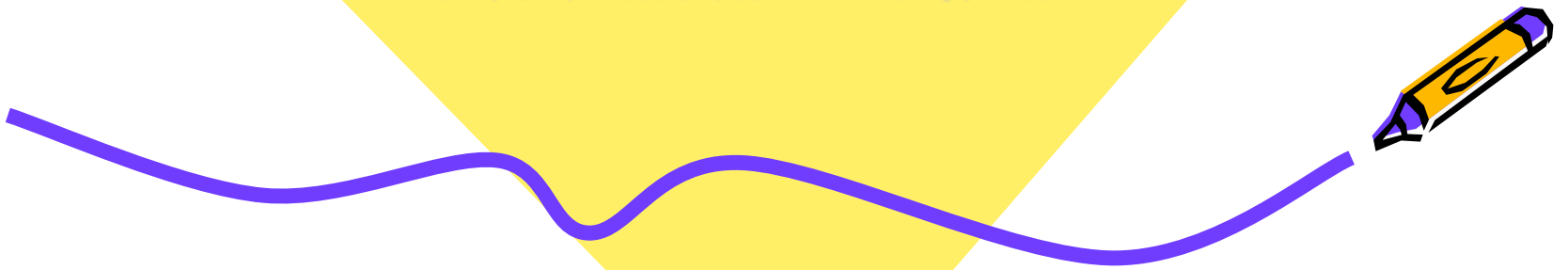
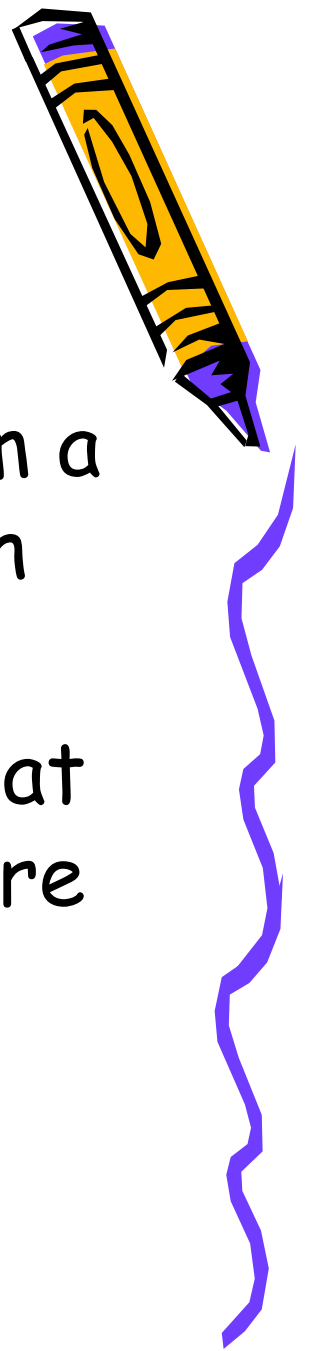




Persona Dolls

Me Hanna Phemba





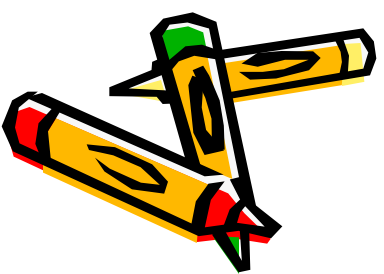
- My name is Hanna Phemba and I am a teacher in a class for learners with learning disabilities.
- Today I want to share with you what a wonderful resource these dolls are in my class.





- As we all know, a doll or a toy somewhere in a child's life is a refuge, a confidant and sometimes a patron.
- But now I want to share with you how the doll helps the children in my class. The following areas are developed in their lives:

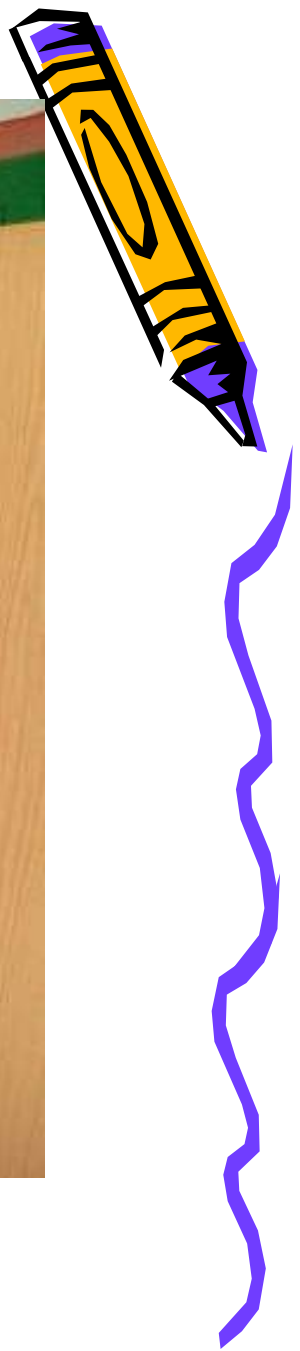




Confidence

- A boy in my class with a partially disabled arm was very aggressive and reserved. He also had a lack of self confidence, which was restored by the doll.
- A doll who also wears glasses visited the class and talked to them about how each person is unique and special, even though he or she might have a disability.







Feelings

- As we all know, children cannot easily word their feelings.
- This often causes them to bully others, because they do not know what to do with the anger inside them.
- The doll again comes in here to talk to the children and teach them to think about their feelings.
- Will I feel better if I hit somebody or will the anger still be there?
- The doll asks the class if anybody can suggest what one should do when you are angry and you don't know how to make it better.
- As the children come up with suggestions, they come to the realisation that there are other methods to control your emotions.

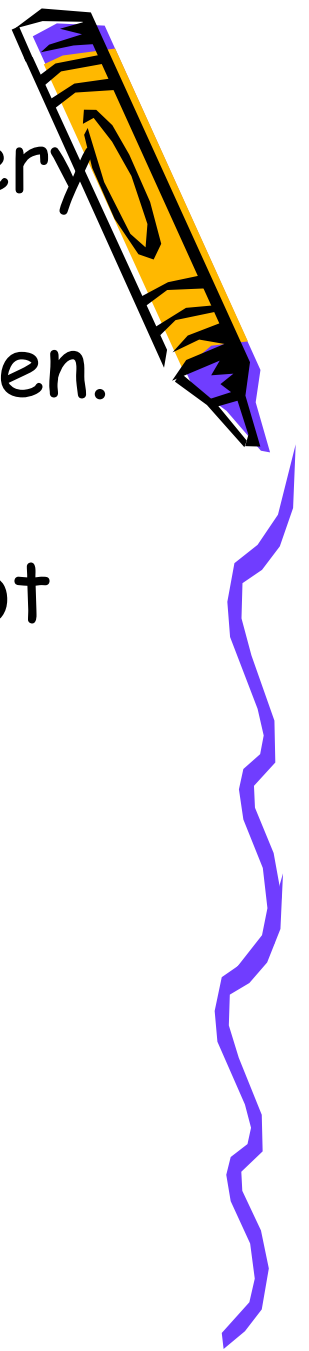


Fear of new work

- Because these are children with learning disabilities, they are usually afraid of new challenges or changes.
- Here the doll comes in very handy again. By using the doll, the children can be prepared for new work that is going to be done in class.
- For example, a doll coming from Ceres can be used when we are going to learn about fruit and vegetables.
- The doll uses the vocabulary the children need to remember. When we start with the new work the next day, there is no insecurity or fear of the unknown.







- I want to stress that the doll is very child-friendly, because it is not a threatening situation to the children.
- It is especially useful for children with learning disabilities who do not like change.
- In my class I find it an extremely positive tool to solve negative problems.



- Thank you.

