

**COLORADO SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT ELEVEN**  
**Dr. Terry N. Bishop, Superintendent**  
**Volunteer Services**

**TO:** El Paso County Elementary Schools  
Second and Third Grade Teachers

**FROM:** LouAnn Dekleva, Coordinator  
Community Resource Bank

**DATE:** School Year 2008-2009

**RE: TREAT YOUR KIDS TO OUR KIDS  
KIDS ON THE BLOCK DISABLED PROGRAM  
FOR SECOND AND THIRD GRADERS ONLY**



THE KIDS ON THE BLOCK is a collaborative effort of School District Eleven Volunteer Services and the ASSISTANCE LEAGUE of Colorado Springs.

Our presentation is designed to teach children what it is like to be disabled through puppetry and student involvement. Our goal continues to be to promote, through THE KIDS ON THE BLOCK, trust, understanding and acceptance of disabled individuals. The puppets will illustrate to their audience that disabled individuals are not so different after all.

During the show, the puppets share their wonderful personalities with the audience. Mandy Puccini is 12 years old and deaf. She uses sign language to communicate. Mark Riley is 11 and has cerebral palsy and is in a wheelchair. He is very bright and excels in math and science. Renaldo Rodriguez is 9 years old and has been blind since birth. He uses a cane, reads Braille and wears a Braille watch. Ellen Jane Peterson is 21 and works for a veterinarian. She has Down's Syndrome and is mentally retarded. Jennifer Hauser is learning disabled and goes to a resource room at her school. Melody James and Brenda Dubrosky are two average kids who are very interested in learning about Mandy, Mark, Renaldo and Ellen Jane.

**AUDIENCE** Second grade: Renaldo, Ellen Jane, Mandy  
Third grade: Mark, Jennifer, Mandy

**SIZE** One grade level, not combined for each performance limited to 60 students maximum

**PRESENTATION TIMES** 9:30 A.M. and 10:30 A.M. Tuesday or Thursday, the available dates are as follows:  
**September 23 & 25; October 21 & 23, 28 & 30; November 18, 20 & 25; January 20 & 22, 27 & 29; February 17 & 19, 24 & 26**  
**Make-up Days April 21 & 23, 28 & 30 in the event of bad weather..**

Each performance is 35 minutes

**NEEDED** Large performance area. No stage is necessary. Seating on floor is appropriate. Audience will come to the presentation. **Please furnish:**

- ◆ **6 foot rectangular table, 29 - 30 inches high**
- ◆ **5 classroom chairs**
- ◆ **electrical outlet**

**PREPARATION** In preparation for THE KIDS' visit, please take advantage of the printed materials you will receive prior to your school's performance. Teachers are required to remain with the students to explain the program, discuss the various disabilities and help the students ask questions during the presentation. Questions from the children are encouraged and the audience will become quite involved with our puppet "people".

PARENTS ARE ENTHUSIASTICALLY INVITED.

**FOLLOW-UP** Thank you notes and pictures and teacher evaluations can be sent to the address below.

Make your request for THE KIDS by completing and returning the request form to: LouAnnDekleva ([deklel@d11.org](mailto:deklel@d11.org)), 1115 North El Paso Street, Colorado Springs, 80903, or FAX (719) 477-1048.  
Please remember to give a choice of days/weeks.