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People with Special Needs



Points to Know :

- ❑ People Needing Special Care
- ❑ Physically and Mentally Challenged People
- ❑ Devices Which Help Them
- ❑ Old People
- ❑ Homeless People/Orphans



Getting Started

Below are given pictures of four very talented and famous people. Besides their talent, something within their personality separated them from the rest. Identify them and write their names :



People Needing Special Care

Most of us are lucky to have good health. We can see, speak and do our work ourselves. But there are many people who cannot see, hear or speak. They are called **people with special needs**. Such people need special care, attention, sympathy, and affection.



Besides such people, special care and attention is also needed by old people, sick people and orphans.

Physically and Mentally Challenged People

Some people are unlucky to be born with some defects or deficiencies in their bodies. Some acquire these defects because of illness, accident or injury. As a result, they are unable to use some part of their body or a sense organ as others. Hence they are unable to see, hear, speak or move properly. These are **physically challenged people**.



Activity

Chances are there might be a physically challenged person in your neighbourhood. Interact with her/him and find out about her/his life, i.e.—needs and work. How may you help her/him?



Things to Know

- ◆ Many organisations, both governmental and voluntary, are working to serve the needs of physically and mentally challenged people. Find out the names of some such organisations.

People suffering from some mental deficiency or disorder are called **mentally challenged people**. Such physically or mentally challenged people need all our sympathy, attention and care. Some ways to help them are :

- ❖ Do not laugh at or tease them.
- ❖ Spend time with them and make them feel wanted.
- ❖ Play with them and make them a part of your daily activities.
- ❖ Help them in their daily chores.
- ❖ Encourage them to go to school, study and have a hobby.
- ❖ Invite them to birthday parties, picnics, outing and other such celebrations.



Devices Which Help Them

Braille

Blind people read from a script called **Braille**.

Braille was invented by Frenchman Louis Braille in 1824. It is a special script which is written on thick paper with 1 to 6 raised dots. Each set of raised dots stands for a letter of the alphabet.



Braille Script

A blind person moves his fingers on these dots and is able to read.

The machine which does such writing in this script is called a **Braille writer**.



Hearing Aid

Hearing Aid

It is a device which increases the volume of the sound thus enabling the user to hear. So, it is a great help to those who are hard of hearing or deaf.

Different hearing aids like body-worn, behind-the-ear and eyeglass aids are available in the market today.

Crutches and Walking Sticks

People who have difficulty in moving around use crutches. Also called **mobility aids**, these are used to support body weight. People also have a choice of using walking sticks and canes.



Walking Stick



Crutches



Sign Language

Sign Language

Use of facial expressions, body movements and gestures to communicate with people who have speaking and hearing impairment is called a **sign language**.



Old People

When people are young and healthy, they are energetic and strong. As they become older, they lose their strength and face a lot of health related issues. They cannot work for long and need a lot of rest and nutritious diet.

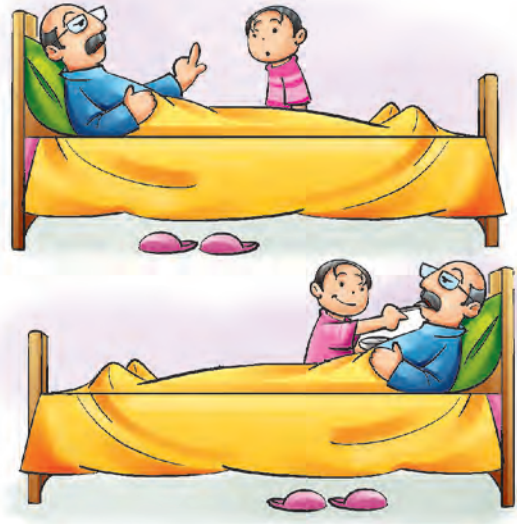


Things to Know

- ◆ Elderly people are also known as 'Senior Citizens'.

Old people need our understanding, concern and support. As they are not able to do a lot of things themselves, they need our help. We can help them in many ways. Some such ways are.

- ❖ Never be rude to them. Listen to them with patience.
- ❖ Try to understand their problems.
- ❖ Spend enough time with them.
- ❖ Take them to the doctor as and when required. Give them their medicines on time.
- ❖ Make them feel wanted.
- ❖ Read newspaper or book for them if they are not able to do so.
- ❖ Accompany them on their walks.



We should also be attentive to sick people. We must spend time with them and keep them in a happy mood.

Their room should be kept clean and comfortable. Their food should be soft and easy to digest. They should have their medicines on time. They must also be provided enough rest.





Things to Know

- ◆ Nearly every major city in the country has 'Old-age Homes', where social workers take care of the elderly in a home-like atmosphere.

Homeless People/Orphans

Every city in India has a population of street children. We see them wandering aimlessly and doing petty jobs. These are children who have lost their parents and have no fixed homes. They are called **orphans**.

Special homes, called **orphanages**, have been set up for these children where their needs of food, clothing, shelter and education are taken care of.



We should donate food, clothes, books, etc. to such orphanages.

Words to know

Donate	:	To give something as charity
Motivate	:	Encourage
Disorder	:	Illness or disease
Script	:	Way of writing
Deficiency	:	Absence of something important



Revision

- ◆ Many people around us need our care, sympathy, love and attention.
- ◆ Some people are physically challenged while some are mentally challenged.
- ◆ Like physically and mentally challenged people, old and sick people, along with orphans, need our love and sympathy.
- ◆ To help physically challenged people lead a normal life, many devices are available in the market.



Exercise

A. Tick (✓) the correct answer :

- Most of us are lucky to have:
(a) our parents (b) good health (c) Both of them
- There are many people who cannot :
(a) speak (b) Hear (c) Both of them
- Braille script was invented in :
(a) 1724 (b) 1824 (c) 1924
- Eye-glass aid is a type of:
(a) hearing aid (b) eyeglass (c) None of these
- Orphans are children with no:
(a) food (b) parents (c) home

B. Fill in the blanks :

- Sick people should be given food which is _____ and _____.
- Blind people read and write in _____ script.
- Old people need our _____, _____ and _____.
- We should not _____ at or _____ physically challenged people.
- Braille script consists of a series of _____ dots.

C. State whether True or False :

- A deaf person cannot see. _____
- Crutches are used by people who have difficulty in walking. _____
- As people grow old, they lose their strength. _____
- Sick people need a properly planned diet. _____
- Sign language is used with people who cannot speak nor hear. _____

D. Answer the following question :

- Why are most of us lucky?
- Who all need our love and sympathy?



3. What is Braille script? Describe its 'features'.
4. How must we help differently-abled people?
5. How do orphanages help the orphans?

 **Activities**

- A. Find out the names of institutions or special school for the physically handicapped. Find out how they help people with handicaps to settle down in life. Do these people get jobs easily? Put all this information in your project file.**
- B. Here are some more ways of taking care of old people. Match them with their pictures.**



1. Help them to climb steps.



2. Offer them your seat in a bus or train.



3. Serve them food and drinks.



4. Open the door for them.

5. Help them to get into a vehicle.



6. Carry their bags.

