

## Different Points of View

It's a Jungle Out there: Adapted from the book "Positive Discipline in the Classroom" by Jane Nelson, Lynn Lott, and H. Stephen Glenn

Explain the whole activity before anyone leaves their seat. Hand out a piece of paper and ask students to consider one of 4 animals they would like to be; a lion, a turtle, a chameleon, or an eagle. Have them jot down which animal, put their pencils down and move to the corner of the room which has a poster paper with a title Why we Want to be a Lion (or one of the other animals). I encourage students to make up their own minds and not look at their friends to see where they are going. Once they get there they need to pick one recorder who will write down all the reasons they chose that animal. I remind them not to worry about what choice their friends are making and to go.

The following are some of the answers you might expect to see:

### Why We Want To Be A Lion

- King of the jungle
- Beautiful to look at
- Independent and proud
- Wife does all the work
- Strong

### Why We Want To Be An Eagle

- They can fly
- They have so much freedom
- They are strong
- Beautiful
- Very Intelligent

### Why We Want To Be A Turtle

- Protected by the shell on our back
- A gentle creature
- Wise
- Patient
- Reliable

### Why We Want To Be A Chameleon

- Changeable (Camouflaged)
- Unusual
- Cute and in style
- Harmless
- An observer

When they have completed this activity ask them to turn over their poster paper and there will be another activity on that side. Ask them to decide why they didn't pick the three other animals. Keep the same recorder. The following are some of the answers you might expect to see:

### **Why We Didn't Choose**

Lion	Eagle	Chameleon
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fierce</li> <li>▪ Lazy</li> <li>▪ arrogant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Loner</li> <li>▪ Endangered</li> <li>▪ Eats mice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Weak</li> <li>▪ Ugly</li> <li>▪ Long tongue</li> </ul>

### **Why We Didn't Choose**

Eagle	Turtle	Chameleon
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ As above</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Plodding</li> <li>▪ Weak</li> <li>▪ Not cute</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ As above</li> </ul>

Once the students have recorded all their ideas ask them to choose a presenter to tell the other students why they chose the animal they did and another to tell the group why they didn't choose one of the other animals (you will likely get lots of laughter and comments but as long as they are positive just go along with the fun). When each group is finished presenting ask why they think they did this activity. Prompt them if needed to understand that we are all different, we may not think alike but even if we disagree, we need to respect other ideas and points of view.