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Tikinagan

Child & Family Services



Dress Purple Day Toolkit:

A Resource for Educators
& First Nation Schools



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Tikinagan
Child & Family Services

TIKINAGAN.ORG/DRESSPURPLE



Thank you for participating in Dress Purple Day this October and November. We are excited to be able to provide this valuable resource for educators and First Nations schools. As well, we have some awesome contests and giveaways for students and your classrooms. Together, let's colour the North purple!

This Toolkit includes:

- What is Dress Purple Day?
- Why engage students?
- Elementary, middle & high school lesson plans
- Key messages for parents/guardians
- Duty to Report
- Contests for students and classrooms!

THANKS
for supporting
DRESS PURPLE DAY





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Ontario Association of
Children's Aid Societies



The resources from this toolkit have been adapted from
oacas.org/publications-and-campaigns/dresspurpleday.
Tikinagan is one of 51 agencies associated with the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies, as well as the Association of Native Child and Family Services Agencies.

ABOUT DRESS PURPLE DAY



What is Dress Purple Day?

Every year, Tikinagan Child and Family Services, along with Children's Aid Societies and Indigenous Child and Family Well-Being Agencies across the province, raise awareness about the important role that individuals and communities play in supporting children, youth, and families.

Wearing purple shows that:

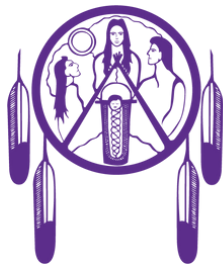
- You speak up for the safety of children and youth in your community
- You are a safe person children and youth can come to if they are feeling uncomfortable or unsafe
- You support children and youth's right to safety and well-being in all spaces

When do we celebrate Dress Purple Day?

This year's official Dress Purple Day is October 25, 2024, but we are encouraging schools to pick a date to celebrate that works best for you and your students. This can be any school day in October or early November.

For more information, visit
TIKINAGAN.ORG/DRESSPURPLE

ABOUT TIKINAGAN



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Tikinagan

Child & Family Services

We believe the answer lies within the community.

For 40 years, we have been serving our 30 First Nations. The Creator entrusted First Nations with the sacred responsibility of protecting our children and developing strong families and healthy communities.

The Chiefs created Tikinagan to support and strengthen our children, our families, and our communities. The future of our communities is our children. They need to be nurtured within their families and communities. As such, community responsibility for child protection is an essential aspect of Indigenous self-government, which is a key aspect of our service model Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin, “everyone working together to raise our children.”

Dress Purple Day gives us the opportunity to show our communities that we are here for our children, youth, and families as a resource. Our philosophy, Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin, doesn’t just include Tikinagan staff. It includes the whole community as we all work together to raise our children. We hope to see everyone wearing purple as a way to show that they are part of the circle of care.

Learn more about Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin, reporting, and our services by visiting Tikinagan.org or follow us on social media.

Help us, but don't out us.



Children and youth in care need extra supports at school but they don't want to be outed for their experiences. Every school should have a designated staff who knows their story that they can reach out to. This designated staff person can discuss with them whether they want other teachers to know about their situation. One designated staff person means children and youth don't have to tell their story over and over again - the reason some may dread going back to school in September. It's also important that this staff person shouldn't ONLY be helping children and youth in care, because that will draw others' attention to their situation.

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ENGAGING STUDENTS



Why engage with students on Dress Purple Day?

- To ensure all children and youth know about their right to safety and well-being in all spaces
- To encourage children and youth to speak up whenever they are feeling uncomfortable or unsafe
- To bring awareness about the adults in their circle of care that are there for children and youth if they need help

Dress Purple Day offers an opportunity to encourage everyone to speak up for every child and youth's right to safety and well-being in all spaces. Not just physical safety and well-being—children and youth have the right to have their intersectional identity, which includes culture, race, sexual orientation, and gender identity, protected, and supported in all spaces.



WELCOME to BEASTIE VALLEY



Beastie Valley is an educational series brought to us by the Windsor-Essex Children's Aid Society and supported by the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies. The series is based on the theme, "It takes a community to care for kids," and is intended to help educators engage children and youth in conversations about safety and well-being, helping adults in the community, and how to ask for help. These are great resources for the classroom and at home!

All the wonderful Beasties decorating our Toolkit and Dress Purple Day materials this year were made by students that participated in last year's "Design your Beastie" activity, inspired by the Beastie Valley educational series.

Check out the next few pages to learn more about the Beasties and go to our website to view the full videos and download the curriculum.

For the link to download the curriculum,
visit [TIKINAGAN.ORG/DRESSPURPLE](https://www.tikinagan.org/dresspurple)



Lesson 1: Getting Help

How to find and ask for help. The first person you go to might not be able to help, so this requires you to tell more than one person.

Getting Help tells the story of OrangeBeastie needing help with a problem – something embarrassing so they don’t want to share it with the whole world.

After trying to solve their problem on their own, OrangeBeastie realizes they need to find someone they can trust to tell their problem to – someone who can help or direct them to the help they need. They go through some options in their head before landing on PurpleBeastie, who has experience dealing with difficult situations.

In the end, OrangeBeastie got the help they needed and is doing much better coping with their problem, all thanks to their trusted friend and an adult beastie named SilverBeastie.



For the link to the videos, visit
TIKINAGAN.ORG/DRESSPURPLE



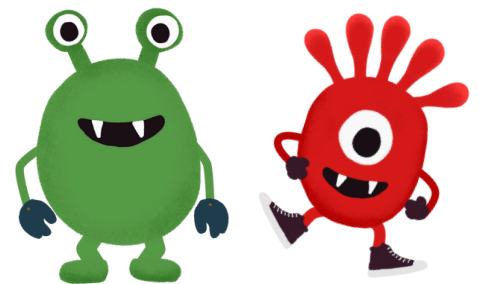
Lesson 2: Getting Touchy

How different kinds of touch can make us feel, learning about boundaries & consent, and the importance of getting help from an adult.

Getting Touchy tells the story about RedBeastie who has REALLY ticklish head tendrils and is super self-conscious about it to boot. But they're just so bouncy and blobby that most other folks can't help themselves from reaching out and giving them a feel or a poke. This makes RedBeastie really uncomfortable. It reminds them of when their older cousin used to make fun of their sensitivity and would use them as little punching bags, which actually hurt a lot.

One day, RedBeastie meets a really nice beastie, GreenBeastie. They become fast pals and their friendship flourishes. There's one problem though, RedBeastie is worried the same thing will happen with GreenBeastie. This leads to a lot of misunderstanding and hurt feelings which almost ends their friendship.

Thanks to some help from an older and wiser beastie named BurntSiennaBeastie, these beastie besties learn an important lesson together about consent and boundaries. AND in the end, they find a new and special way to celebrate their friendship!





Lesson 3: Well-Being in the Community

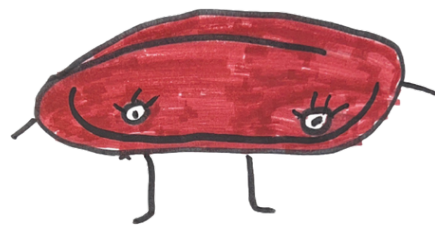
Understanding what well-being is all about and how we can make sure all of our needs are being met. Adults have a role to play.

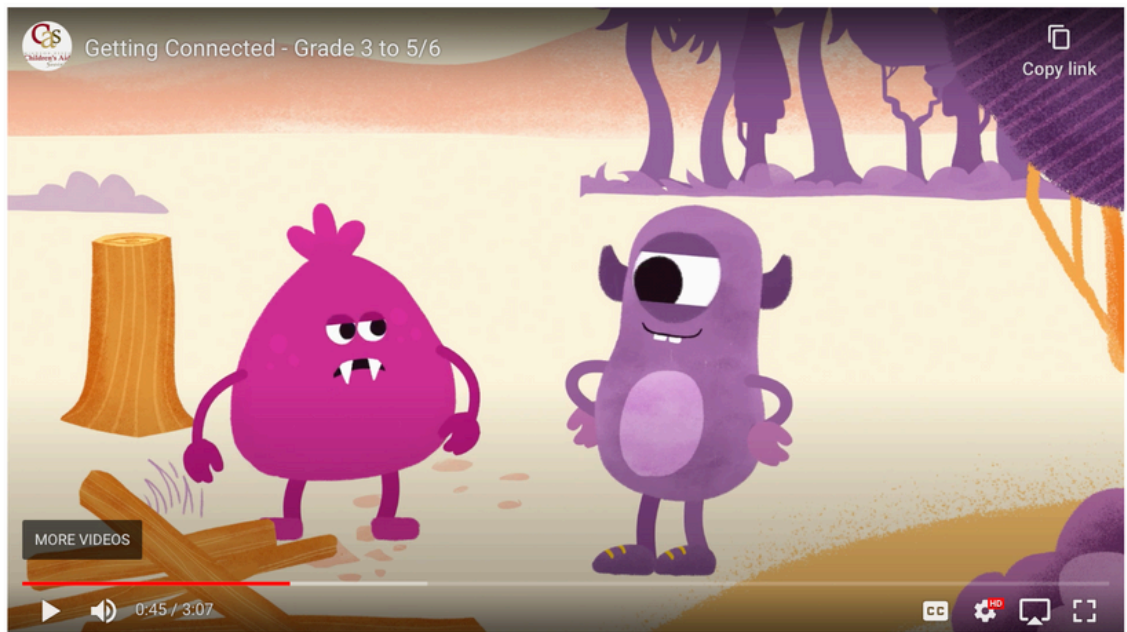
Well-Being in the Community tells the story of one particular young beastie named MaroonBeastie. MaroonBeastie is pretty cool and well-liked. You'd think that would be enough for any beastie, but MaroonBeastie has one thing that they're really really into and can't get enough of. For as long as they can remember, MaroonBeastie has always been into treecones.

But lately, MaroonBeastie is feeling more and more like no matter how many cones they collect – and they've collected a LOT of treecones – it's somehow never enough. Meanwhile, it seems like ALL the other beasties are carrying on with fulfilling lives.

MaroonBeastie's journey leads them to encounter many beastie friends along the way, including an adult beastie named SepiaBeastie who knows a thing or two about a thing or two. SepiaBeastie teaches all the young beasties an important lesson about well-being, how important it is to have all our needs met, and how adult beasties can help.

MaroonBeastie finally understands this lesson and in the end, finds what they have been needing the most.

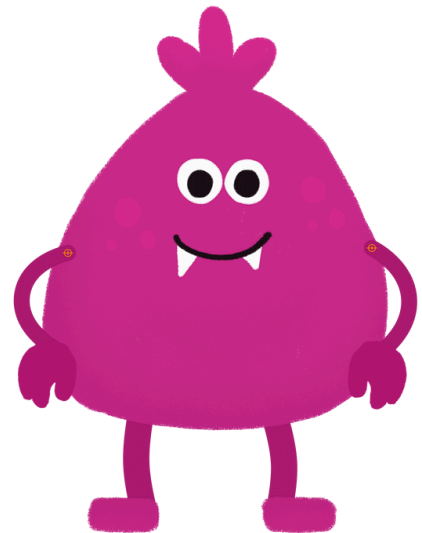




Lesson 4: Getting Connected

Everyone in a community plays a role, and together create a strong community web. No one is alone.

Getting Connected brings together all the experiences and lessons from the Beastie Valley video series to show that Beastie Valley is a true community. Everyone does their best and wants what's best for themselves and the other beasties.



This act of sharing and support is happening all around Beastie Valley. Even if you can't find help the first time you look for it, eventually you will, and a strong community web is one with lots of connections. That means you are not alone.

You can see how everyone is connected, you can see how you're connected. And you can see how much stronger the web is because of you!



For the link to download the curriculum, visit TIKINAGAN.ORG/DRESSPURPLE



MAKE IT HEARD!

School Announcement

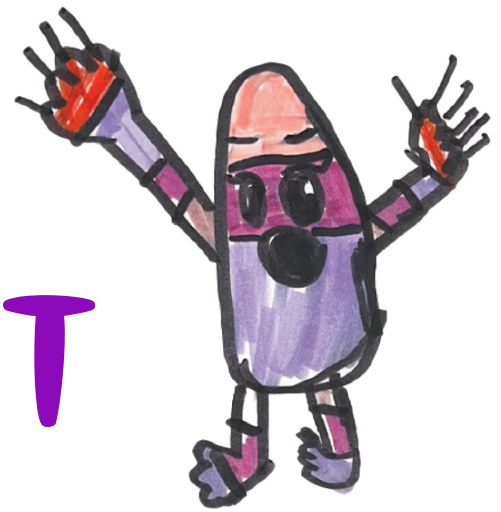
Dress Purple Day takes place in October every year across all of Ontario. Dress Purple Day was created to raise awareness among children and youth about their right to safety and well-being in all spaces. We wear purple to show others that we are there for them and that no one is alone.

Tikinagan Child and Family Services invites you to wear purple on _____ (the day your school chooses). By wearing purple, you can show that you are part of the circle of care that supports the well-being of children, youth, and families.

Don't forget to announce the contests on the next page!



STUDENT ENGAGEMENT



Wear purple or send in your Beasties to win a HOT LUNCH!

Take a photo of your class (10 or more students or a majority of a small classroom) wearing purple to win a hot lunch. Or have your class complete one of our Beastie activity pages and send them in to win a hot lunch. One hot lunch will be awarded per classroom that participates.

Create your own Beastie and you could win it in real life!

Students are invited to create their own Beastie using our “Design your Beastie” page and send it to us to win a stuffed animal version of their creation!



How to enter

Activity pages and posters for both contests can be found at the end of the toolkit. We ask that teachers send pictures of their class or class artwork to communications@tikinagan.org by **November 15, 2024**, with the teacher’s name, classroom grade and school name. Multiple winners will be chosen!

Photos and drawings will be shared on Tikinagan’s social media, website and other Dress Purple Day materials. A consent form is attached, if needed for student photos.

Meet with us and talk to us...

...when you're making decisions about us.

Children and youth know their needs, although they don't always know what's available to them. Avoid only consulting with caregivers and other adults.

Bring their voice into all educational decisions that involve them, including IEPs (Individualized Education Programs) and accommodations. Truly hearing the voice of children and youth means active listening, understanding there's a power dynamic that makes it difficult for them to speak openly, not making assumptions, and asking rather than telling.

[TIKINAGAN.ORG/DRESSPURPLE](https://www.tikinagan.org/dresspurple)

DUTY TO REPORT

The Child, Youth and Family Services Act recognizes that professionals and officials who work with children have an enhanced responsibility to report their suspicions. Education professionals can be the vital link for a child or youth who is experiencing abuse or neglect at home or in the community.

The purpose of the Child, Youth and Family Services Act (CYFSA) is to promote the best interests, protection, and well-being of children and youth.

Children and youth have a right to safety and well-being wherever they are, whether it's at home or out in the community. Tikinagan will investigate concerns about primary caregivers, but also community caregivers, such as coaches or teachers.

You do not have to be sure about concerns to make a referral to Tikinagan; use your best judgement. Tikinagan has the expertise to assess and decide whether to intervene.

If you have a concern about the safety and well-being of a child or youth you must call Tikinagan at 1-800-465-3624. You are not permitted to delegate your legal duty to report to any other person, including a supervisor.

The duty to report is ongoing. Even if you have made a previous referral, you must continue to make referrals if you believe a child or youth still requires protection.

If you have questions or want to learn more about reporting, call us at [1-800-465-3624](tel:1-800-465-3624) or visit our website at Tikinagan.org/reporting.

CONNECT WITH US



Share Your Purple Pics!

Share your purple pics on social media using the hashtags:

#IDressPurple

or

#IDressPurpleBecause

QUESTIONS?

Contact the Communications team at
Communications@tikinagan.org

More content available at
TIKINAGAN.ORG/DRESSPURPLE



For more information, visit
TIKINAGAN.ORG/DRESSPURPLE





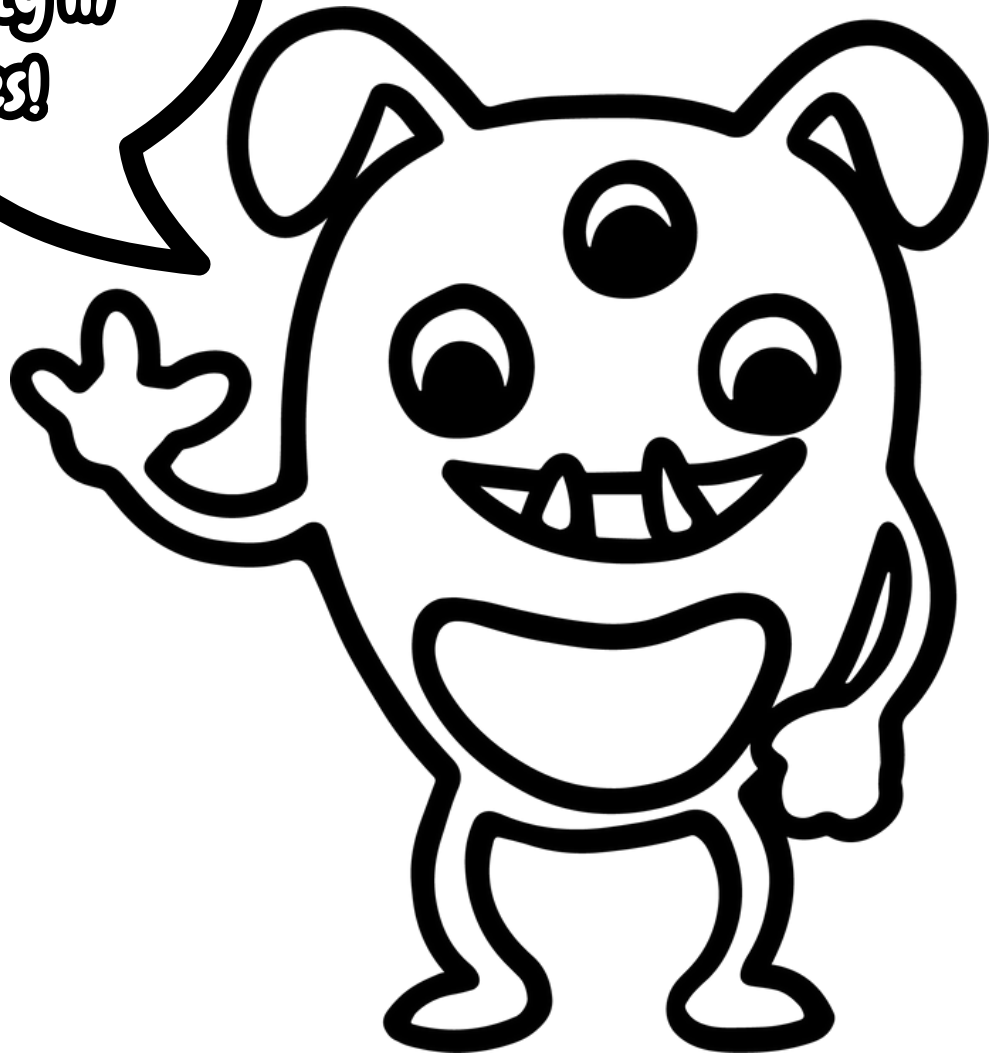
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Child & Family Services

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Dress Purple Day
Activity Pages

**I dress purple
because I care
about safety in
all spaces!**



Why do you dress purple?



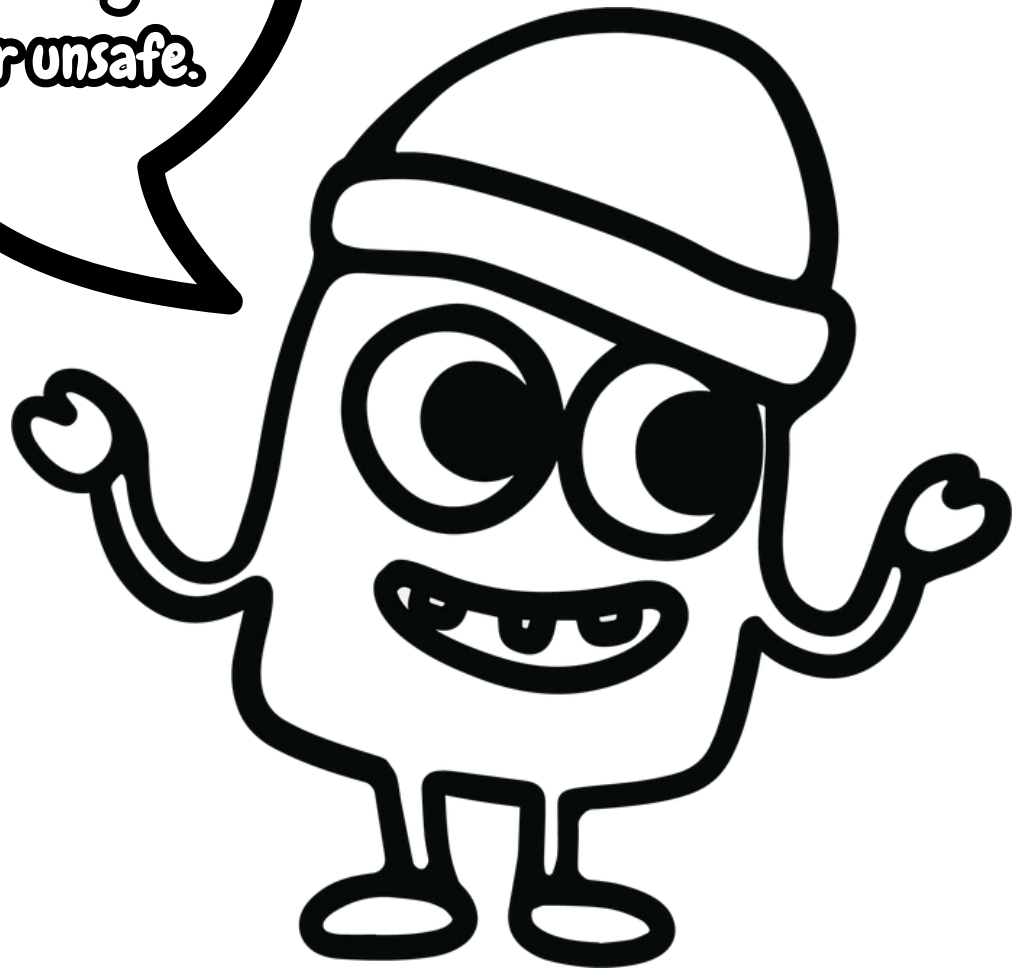
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Dress Purple Day
Activity Pages

**I dress purple to show
it's okay to speak up
when you're feeling
uncomfortable or unsafe.**



Why do you dress purple?



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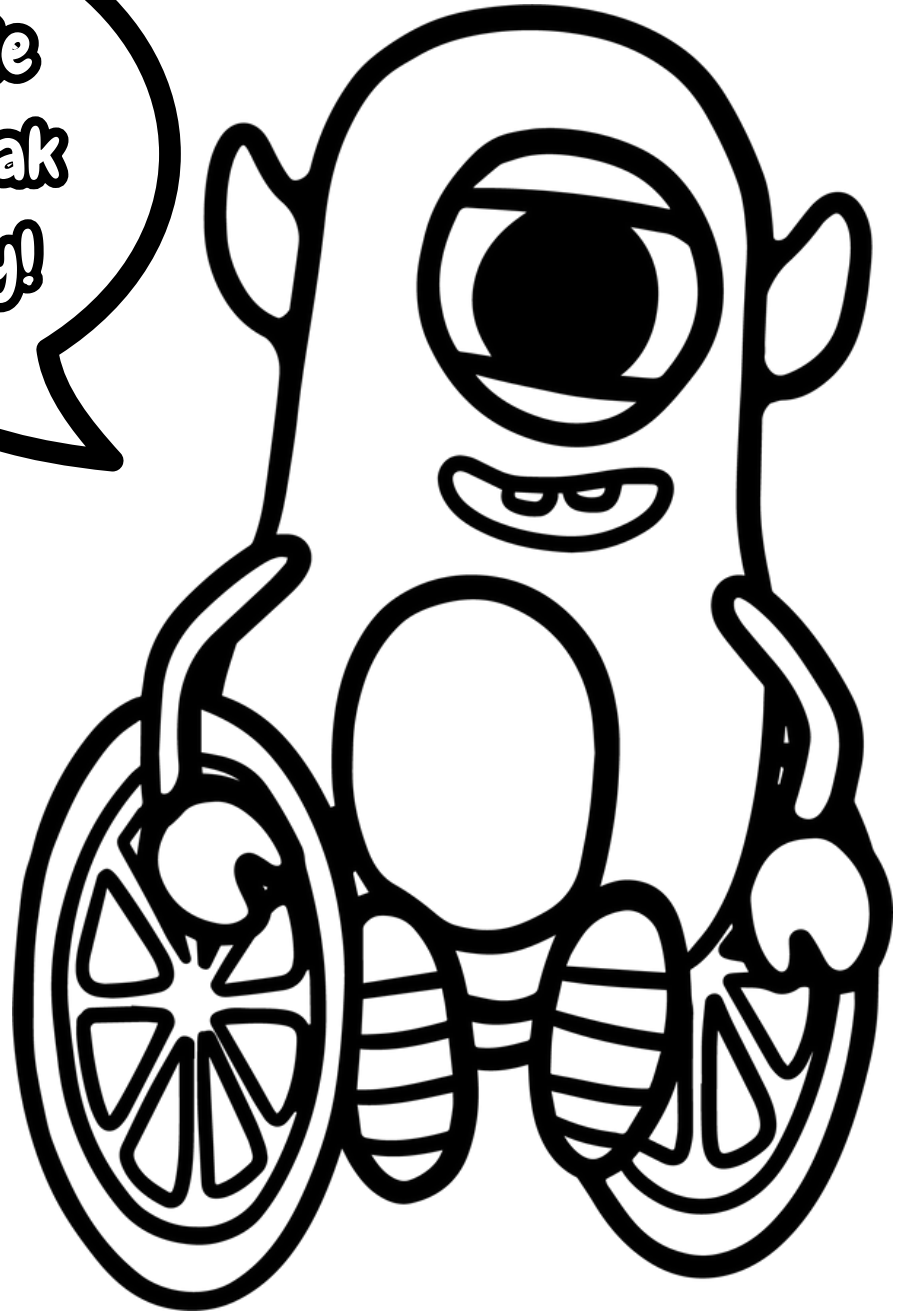
Child & Family Services

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Dress Purple Day

Activity Pages

**I dress purple
because I speak
up for safety!**



Why do you dress purple?



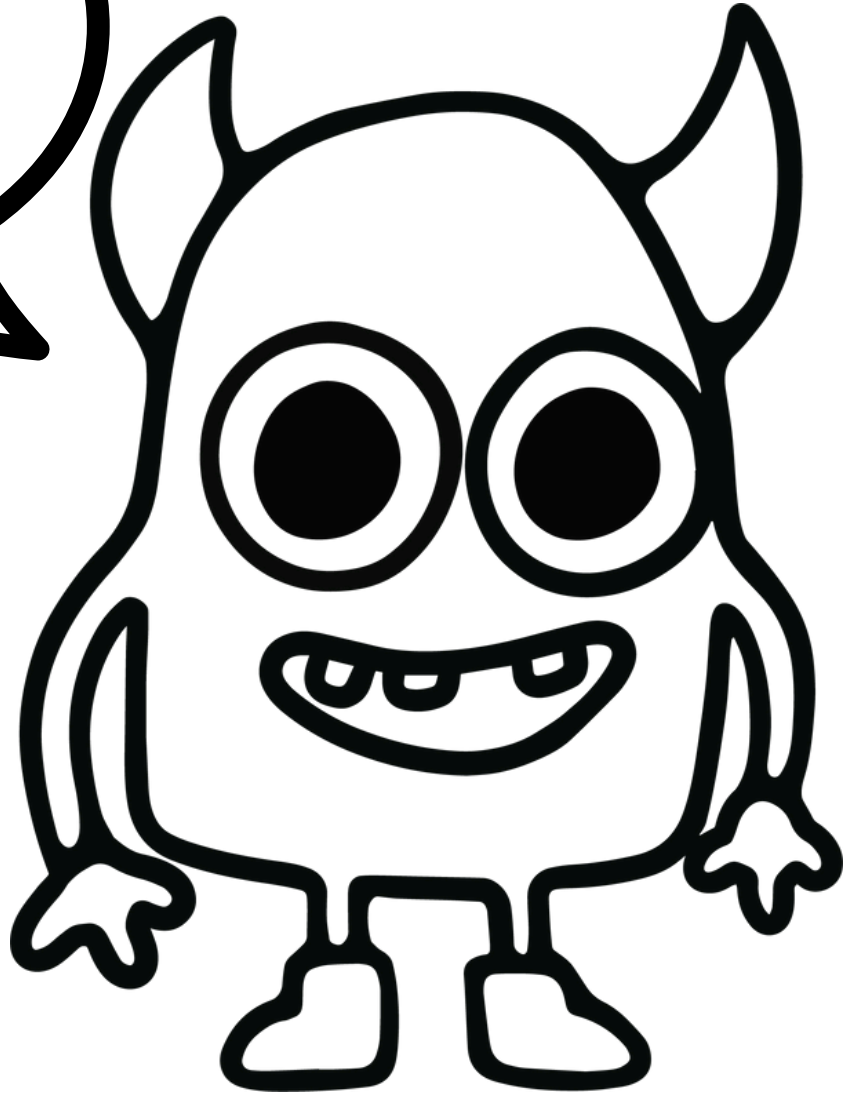
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Tikinagan

Child & Family Services

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Dress Purple Day
Activity Pages

**I dress purple to
show others I
support safety in
my community.**



Why do you dress purple?

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Dress Purple Day

ՀԵՔՏՈՒԲ 2024

October 2024



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Design Your Beastie!

I dress purple because...



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Dress Purple Day

ՆՁՔ՝Ճ՝ՆՐԸ 2024
October 2024

**Wear Purple or send in
your Beasties to win a
hot lunch for your class!**

Take a photo of your class (10 or more students or a majority of a small classroom) wearing purple to win a hot lunch. Or send in your class's completed Beastie Activity Pages to win a hot lunch. One hot lunch will be awarded per classroom that participates.

Please send pictures of your class in purple or your class's Beasties with the classroom grade, teacher's name and school name to communications@tikinagan.org, by **November 15, 2024** to win!



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Tikinagan
Child & Family Services





ՀԱՍՏՈՒՆՆԵՐԻ
Dress Purple Day

ՆՁՔՈՒՆ 2024
October 2024

**Design your own Beastie and
you could win it in real life!**

Students are invited to create their own Beastie using our “Design your Beastie” page and send it to us to win a stuffed animal version of their creation!



Send in your student’s Beasties to communications@tikinagan.org with the teacher and student’s name, grade and school to be entered to win!



Drawings must be sent in by **November 15, 2024** to be entered. Multiple winners will be chosen!



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Tikinagan Image Consent Form

Purpose: Tikinagan Child and Family Services hosts an up-to-date website and social media pages, as well as produces informational materials about its services for the public. The website, social media pages, and informational materials include photos and video of community members, families and children.

What is expected of me? We would like to include photographs and/or video of you and/or your children on the Tikinagan website, social media, and/or in informational materials about Tikinagan services.

Who will see the pictures? Photographs and/or video of you and/or your children may be posted on the Tikinagan website (www.tikinagan.org) and our social media pages. Anyone who visits these pages will be able to see them. Informational materials will be distributed in Tikinagan’s service area and elsewhere.

You may take as much time as you wish to think this over. Before you sign this form, please ask questions about anything not clear to you.

AUTHORIZATION:

I, _____, being at least 19 years of age
[please print your name]

and the parent/legal guardian of _____
[please list all underage children here]

hereby consent:

(i) that the photographs/video in which I or my child(ren) appear may be used by Tikinagan Child and Family Services for posting on its website, social media pages or in Tikinagan informational materials.

(ii) to release all my rights and my children’s rights to these photographs/video and allow them to become Tikinagan’s property, so Tikinagan shall have the right to post them to its website, social media pages, or use them in its informational materials free of all claims and/or damages I or my child(ren) may have or incur;

(iii) and to release Tikinagan from any liability with respect to any use made of these photographs/video after they appear on the website or social media (for example, other people downloading them).

I understand:

(i) that Tikinagan Child and Family Services will not use these photographs/video for any other purpose other than for its website, social media and informational materials;

(ii) that Tikinagan will install controls on the website and social media to the extent possible to prevent photos/video from being transferred;

(iii) and that I may withdraw my consent at any time, but that I need to do so in writing to Tikinagan Child and Family Services.

Signature of Person in Photo or Parent/Guardian of Underage Child

Date

Mailing address, phone number, email address (if you have one)

Signature of Tikinagan staff

Date

Internal Use - Photo Description:



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