

## Grade 4 English Language Arts

Week of January 18 – January 22

### Lesson 1: Perspective Taking and Empathy

Have you ever been upset or angry, and had someone tell you to "Just calm down"?

Have you ever been anxious or worried about something and had someone tell you "It's not a big deal"?

How did this make you feel? Did it make you feel unseen? Misunderstood?

The person telling you to "Just calm down" or that "It's not a big deal" probably wasn't trying to make you feel that way, but they may have lacked the ability to **empathize** with you in those situations.

**Perspective-taking** is the beginning of **Empathy**. It's about putting yourself in another person's shoes, even if you may not feel the same way about a situation. Perspective-taking and empathy are about realizing that someone else might not view, react, or feel the same way about a situation as you do.



### Put Yourself in Auggie's Shoes

Have you ever heard of the expression *put yourself in their shoes*? This basically means try and have **empathy** for someone. Imagine how they might **view** a situation, how they might **feel**, what they might be **thinking** etc.

For this activity, you will watch various clips from the movie **Wonder** (also a book). If you haven't read this fantastic book or watched the movie, I'll give you a little summary!

"Born with facial differences that, up until now, have prevented him from going to a mainstream school, Auggie Pullman becomes the most unlikely of heroes when he enters the local fifth grade. Auggie faces challenges such as bullying and exclusion as he navigates trying to gain self-confidence and acceptance from his peers."

**You will complete this activity in your Learning Guide.**

#### Auggie's First Day

Up until this point, Auggie had been homeschooled and never attended a 'regular' school. This scene shows Auggie being sent off to school by his encouraging family.



Wonder clip: <https://youtu.be/Cp95gWHVejo>

### **After Auggie's First Day**

Kids at school can be mean, especially when you are 'different'. Auggie had a tough first day at school, but so did his sister Miranda. Everyone, no matter who you are, can have a bad day.



Wonder clip: <https://youtu.be/bzdwahX9UQs>

### **Jack Ruins Auggie's Halloween**

Jack, Auggie's first friend at school, is caught talking behind Auggie's back. Jack is with a group of boys who are all making fun of Auggie and don't realize that he is standing right behind them.



Wonder clip: <https://youtu.be/LI1IH4Krm7o>

### **Auggie Wins an Award**

The school year is over, and Auggie has come a long way in terms of making friends and gaining self-confidence. You could even say Auggie likes school now! At the graduation ceremony, Auggie wins a prestigious award.



Wonder clip: <https://youtu.be/WZAmSt6sC0g>

## **Wonder Clips – Put yourself in Auggie's Shoes**

### **1. Auggie's First Day**

- a. Why do you think Auggie is wearing his astronaut helmet?  
How do you think wearing it makes him feel?



- b. How do you think Auggie is feeling walking into the school for the first time?

## 2. After Auggie's First Day

How do you think Auggie's sister is feeling? What makes her feel this way?

## 3. Jack Ruins Auggie's Halloween

- a. How do you think Auggie feels *before* hearing Jack talk about him?

- b. How do you think Auggie feels *after* hearing Jack talk about him?

4. Auggie Wins an Award

a. How do you think Auggie's mom feels when she hears that Auggie has won an award?

b. Why is this moment so special for Auggie?