

Sophia Malayeri, 10 years old

Welcoming People Who Are Different From Me

Everyone is different. We each have different personalities and that's what makes us unique.

I had a friend from Afghanistan. On the first day of school, people were judging her on how she looked and the different culture that she came from. I realized it was not okay to hurt people like that and we should respect others the same way that we want to be treated.

I'm going to start a candy business soon and every week I change the flavors. I think of candy as people and every single candy is different even if it's the same flavor. Everyone is different in their own unique way just like candy.

I like to travel a lot and because of that, I'm exposed to so many different cultures and people.

When I talk to people who have different backgrounds from me, I surprisingly learn that we have more in common than I first thought.

Even if you can not travel far, just go to a local playground. You will be shocked about how many nice people you may meet.

We are blessed that we live in a very diverse part of the country. People are very friendly and are willing to share their stories and cultures with you. In fact, it makes them happy that you like to listen to them and learn more about their cultures.

I grew up with a motto in my family that 'the sun shines equally on all of us'.

Go out and be the Sun!