MENA Innovation 2019
Official Ministerial Forum for ICT Innovation in Education

ArabBrains

منتدى الابتكار التقني في التعليم بمنطقة الشرق الأوسط و شمال أفريقيا ٢.١٩

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Advancing Greater Inclusivity & Diversity in Education

Opening Comments:
Prof Eman Gaad
Dean of Faculty of Education
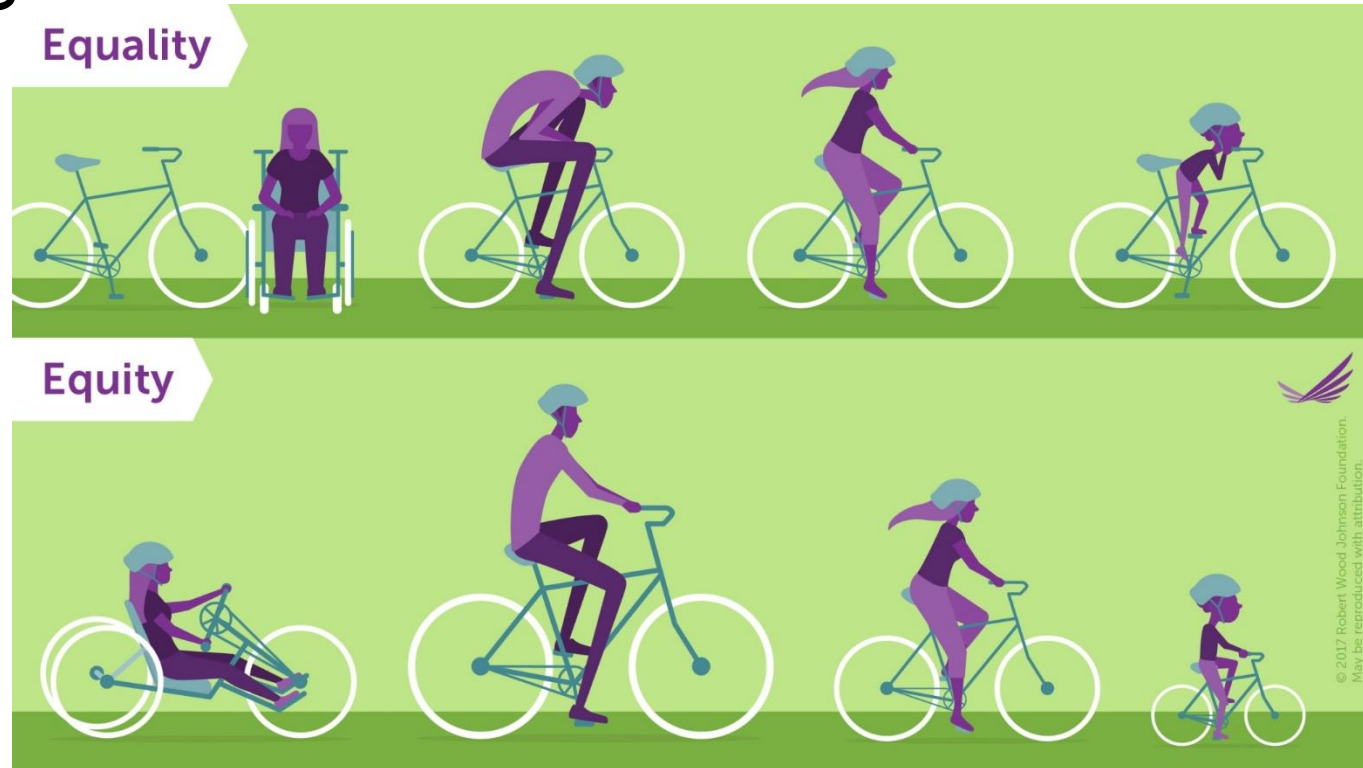British University in Dubai

THE TOOLKIT FOR INCLUSIVITY

- ▶ Inclusive, Learning-Friendly Environment (ILFE)

- ▶ Getting all children in school & learning

- ▶ Working with families & communities

- ▶ Valuing & embracing diversity in the classroom

- ▶ Ensuring non-bias in the curriculum

- ▶ Are ministries of education & schools ready for learning-friendly environment?

- ▶ Use of technology for inclusive education

Why create an inclusive School?

Inclusive, Learning-Friendly Environment (ILFE)

From Equality to Equity: A Human Rights based Approach

Getting all children in school & learning

The Incheon Declaration
Education 2030: Towards inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning for all

'Inclusion and equity in and through education is the cornerstone of a transformative education agenda, and we therefore commit to addressing all forms of exclusion and marginalization, disparities and inequalities in access, participation and learning outcomes'

Working with families & communities

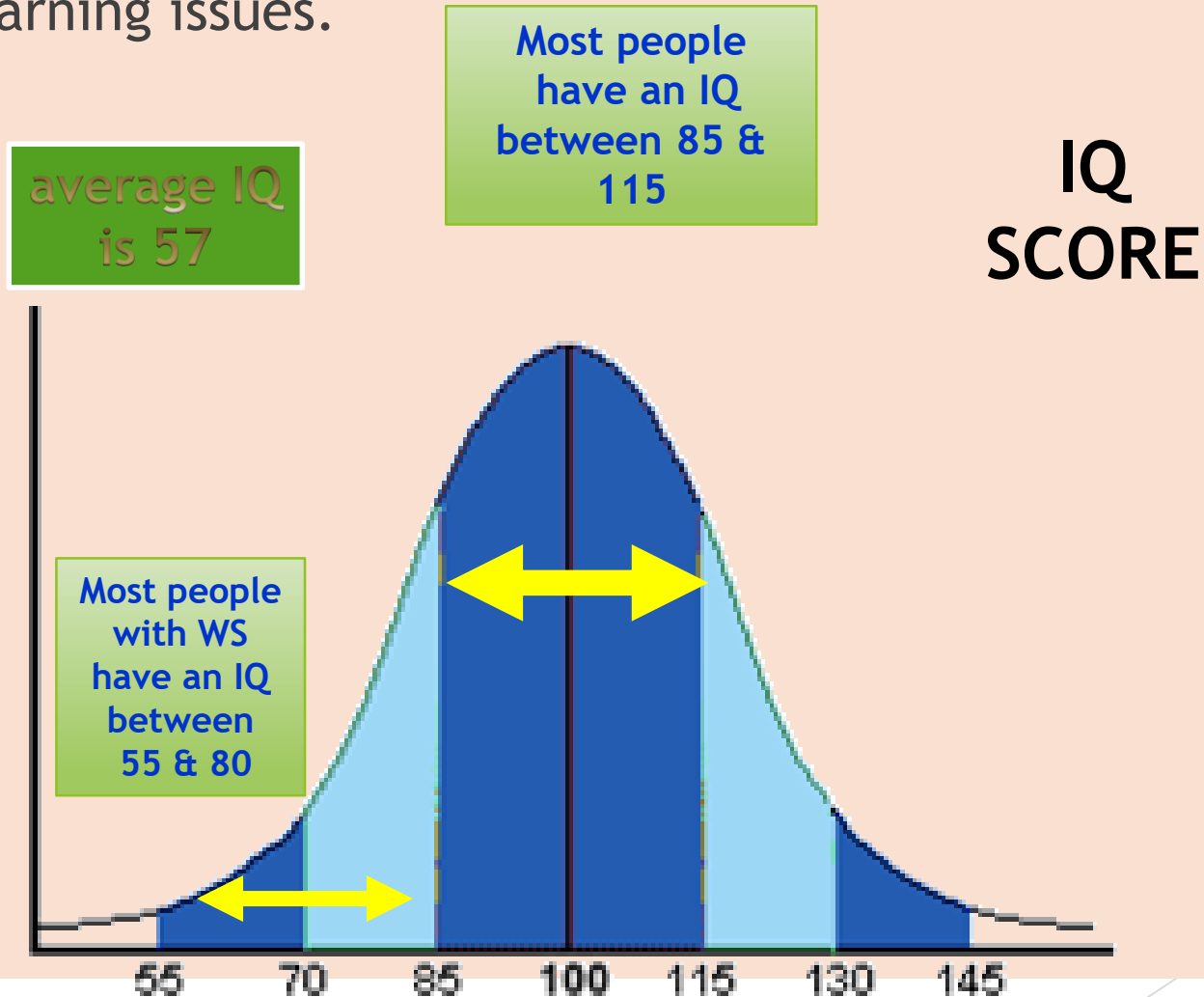# Getting the Inclusivity Concepts Across: Training Um Ahmed Using Technology

Valuing & embracing diversity in the classroom

▶ Williams syndrome was discovered in 1961

▶ By Dr. Williams from New Zealand.

▶ He had a few patients who looked like each other and had similar heart problems

▶ 1 out of every 7,500 babies born have Williams syndrome

▶ People with Williams syndrome are missing 27 genes on Chromosome #7.

Learning Issues of
People with Williams Syndrome

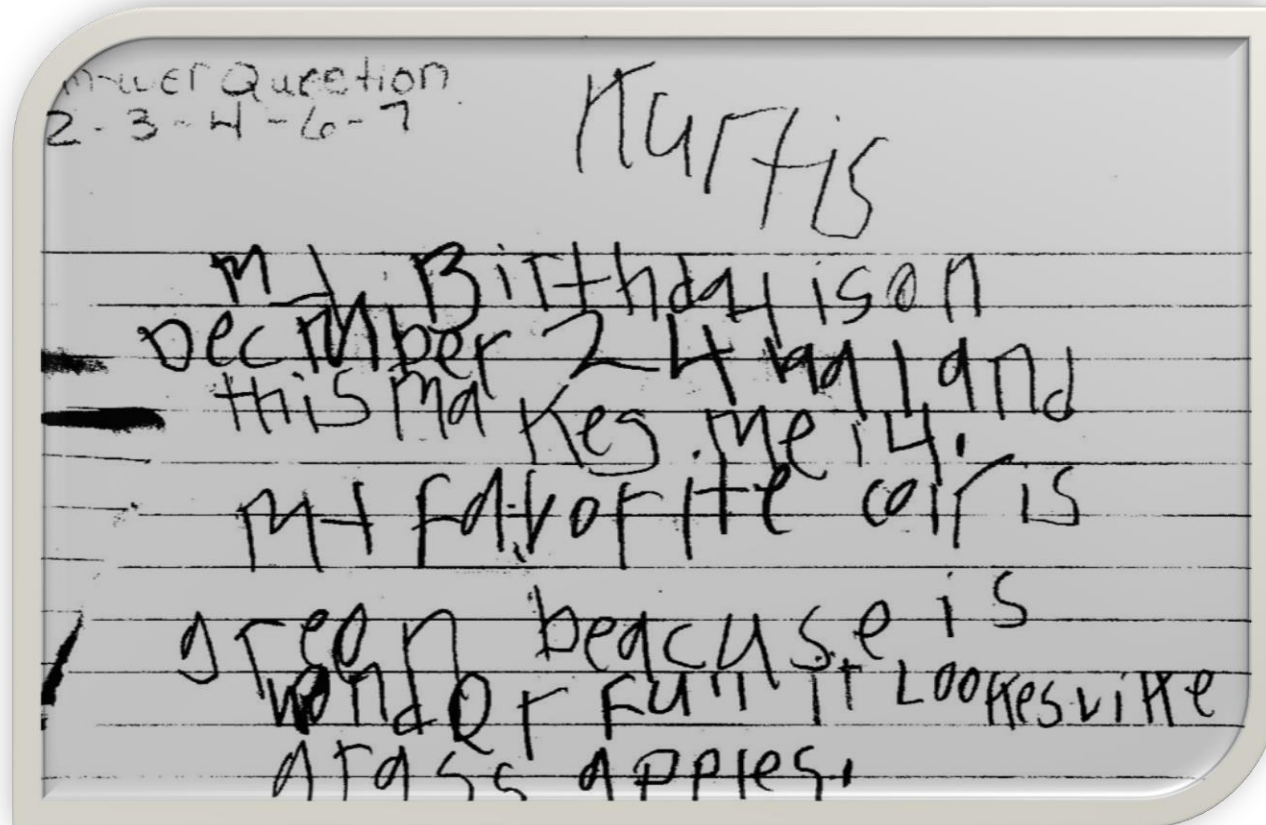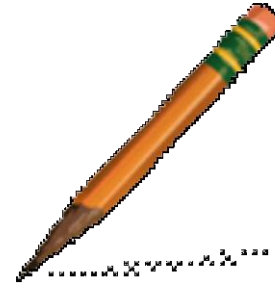▶ Intellectual Impairment – most people with WS have learning issues.

Most people have an IQ between 85 & 115

average IQ is 57

Most people with WS have an IQ between 55 & 80

IQ SCORE

55　70　85　100　115　130　145

Learning Issues of People with Williams Syndrome

▶ Intellectual Impairment –
Most people with WS have learning issues.

▶ They have a really hard time with hand writing

- The books from my classes are too difficult for me to read and understand

- I have trouble understanding all the words

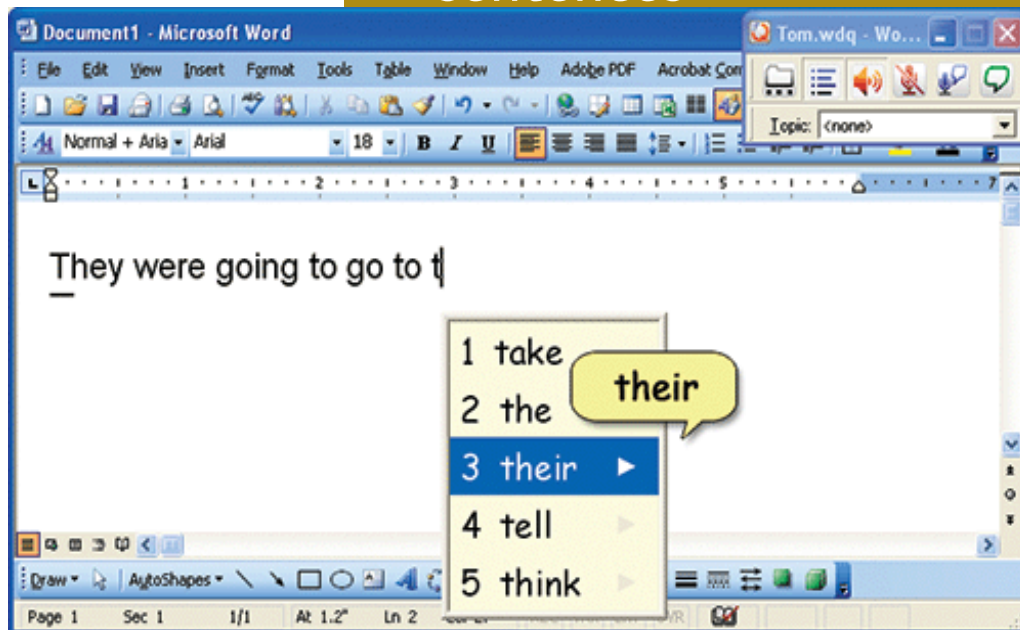- I have trouble understanding what is happening in the story

Sample Handwriting

- Writing is very hard for me

- Making changes just takes too long & I can't erase what I want to

- Sometimes when I try to read it again - I am not sure what it says

Because Handwriting is Difficult…

- When I need to write in class, I get out my computer

- It has a talking word processing program with <u>word prediction</u> that helps me to write my sentences
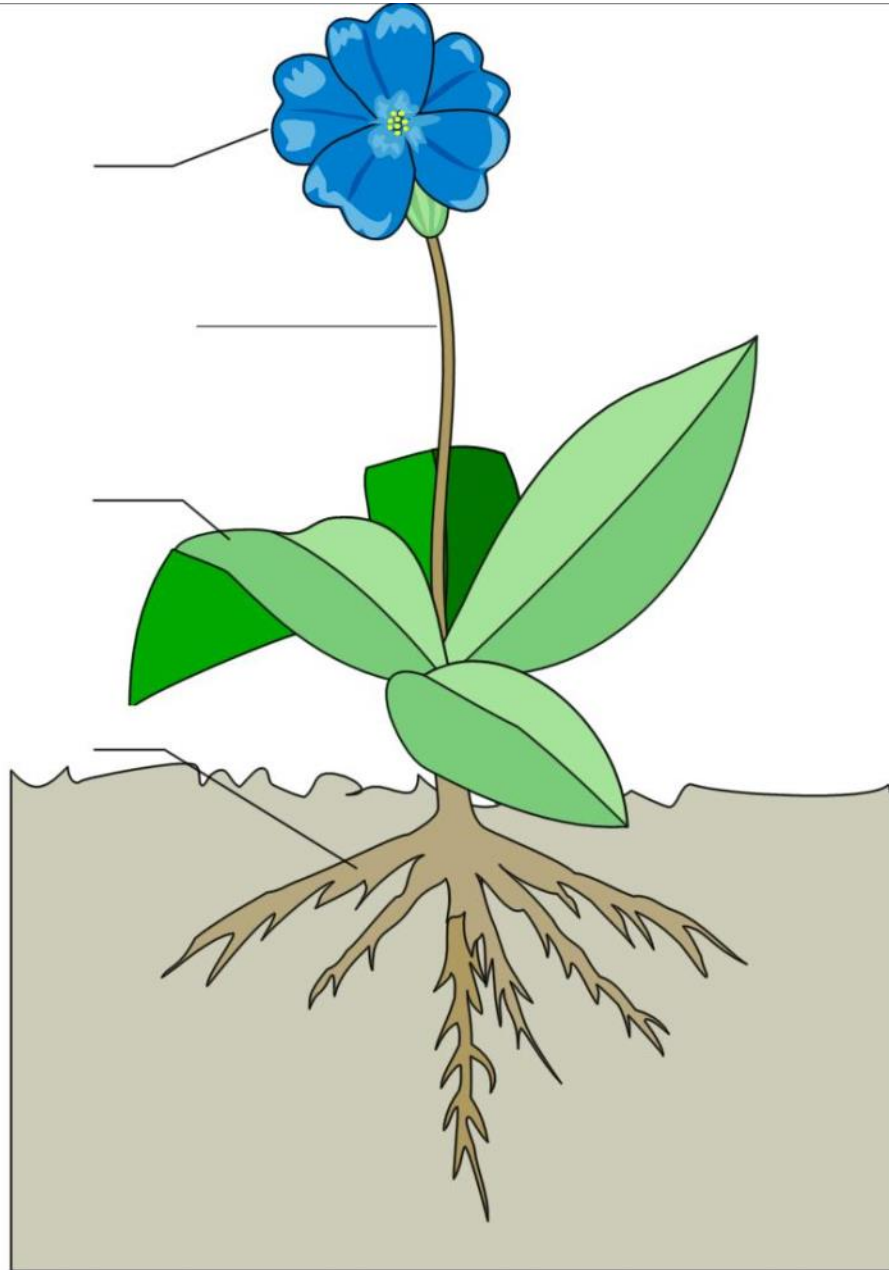
- It helps me to find the words I am thinking of

- I like this program because if I don't know a word it reads the word out loud to me

- When I finish my sentence it reads it out loud to me and I can fix it if I need to

Drop & Drag

- I really like it when my teachers create Drop & Drag documents for me

- This really helps because I can show them what I know without having to write

- Here is an example from Science

Ensuring non-bias in the curriculum

WORD BANK

stem

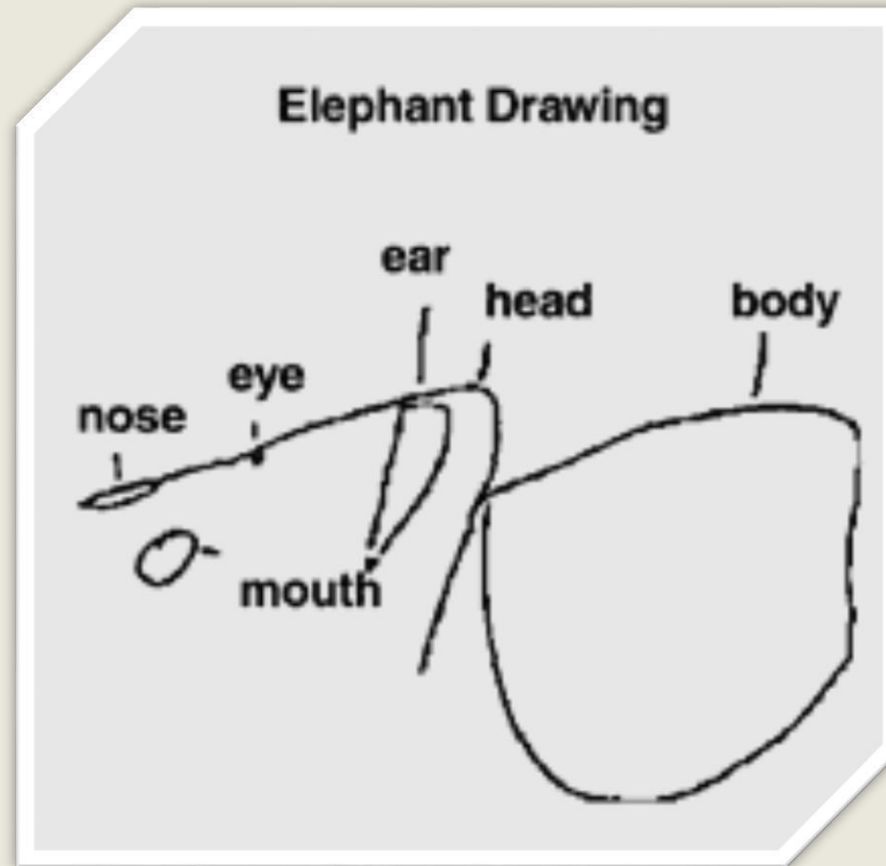leaves

roots

flower

Learning Issues of
People with Williams Syndrome

▶ Drawing is very difficult for learners with WS

Elephant Drawing

THE USE OF ICT FOR INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

Accessible ICTs have a major role to play in enabling educational authorities, educators, students and parents to move towards a more inclusive educational system
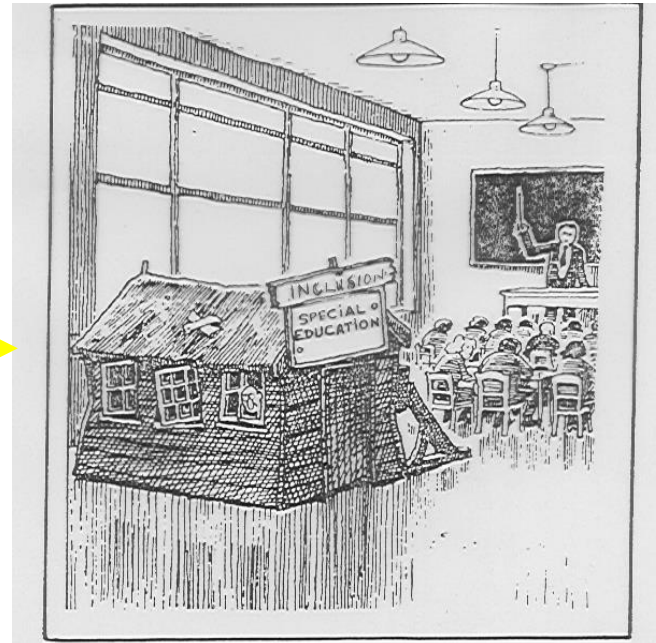
The benefits of accessible ICTs

- Enables greater learner autonomy
- Unlocks hidden potential for those with communication difficulties
- Enables students to demonstrate achievement
- Enables tasks to be tailored to suit individual skills and abilities

Benefits for students & teachers

- Computers improve independent access
- Communication aids help gain confidence
- Internet access helps those with visual impairment
- Teachers improve their skills and understanding of IT
- Enhances professional development

ICT help us to have a meaningful Inclusive Education

A UNESCO study showed that if person with disabilities are kept outside the labour market it amounts to 7.7% of GDP
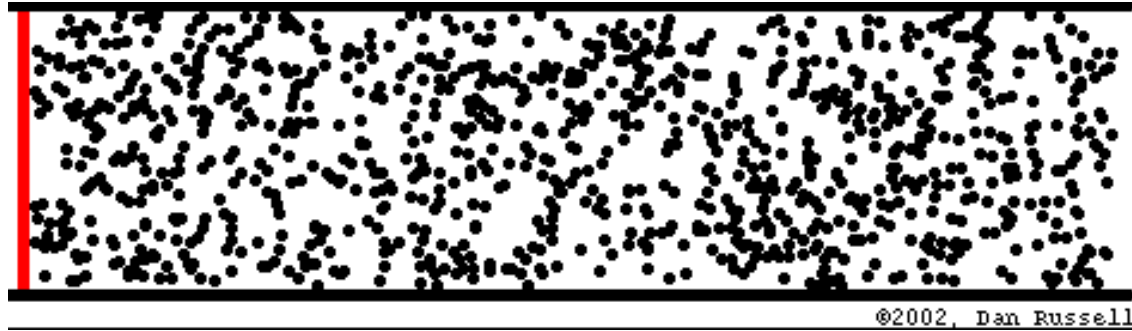
MOBILIZE OPINION ON THE RIGHT EDUCATION FOR ALL

► Reform Legislation in line with international conventions

► Build consensus within government, schools & communities

► Support local capacity-building

► Measure impact of inclusive policies

► Help teacher understand their role

Are ministries of education & schools ready for learning-friendly environment?
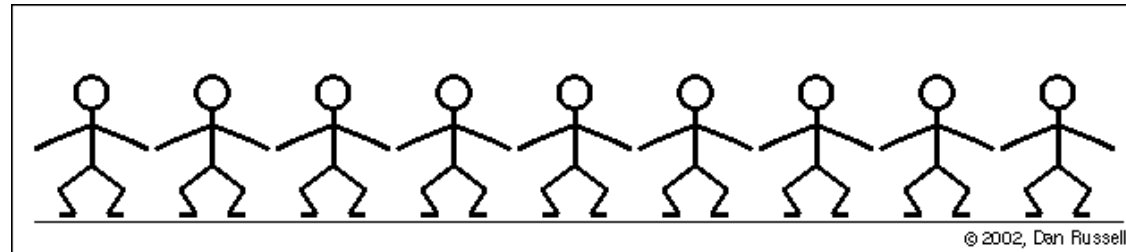

equality diversity inclusion

INCLUSION & DIVERSITY IS AN OPPORTUNITY NOT A PROBLEM

When the energy meets the particles or molecules in the medium, they cause the molecules to move, or *vibrate*.

©2002, Dan Russell

The wave moves through the medium but the particles stay in place. The particles bounce around or move up and then down and return to the same place they were before they started vibrating.

Only energy moves...not the particles or matter!

When you see the "wave" at the football game; the wave moves around the stadium; but the people stay in their seats!

Final Thoughts ….

- Keep helping students to achieve
- Keep helping teachers to support all learners
- Keep making parents proud
- Keep inspiring
- Keep innovating
- And most important …
  - **keep using Technology, it will make inclusion happen despite our differences!**

Thank you for helping us to make a difference!

🐦 @DrEmanGaad

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