

Mrs. Sachs - Grade 3

During a class discussion, at the beginning of the school year, on accepting people the way they are, one student told us of a friend who had broken his leg and was in a wheelchair.

Another student mentioned someone she knew who was in a wheelchair but did not break his leg - he just could not walk. A discussion followed. One student mentioned illnesses which would cause someone to lose the ability to walk. Another student said that he hoped he would never catch a disease like that. I told them about **Jonas Salk** and the Salk vaccine and that they did not have to worry about catching Polio. The students were very interested and asked many, many questions.

Several months later, we were discussing a "hero" for our class to choose. One student immediately mentioned Jonas Salk and all agreed he would be our class "hero". We created a KWL chart and discovered we had so much we wanted to know about him. In groups, students came up with questions to answer. They then chose the top questions they wanted to research. Each student used both a chromebook and also the computers in the lab to find the answers to their questions. They wrote their information on note cards.

When the research was completed, students who researched the same questions met together to combine their information. We then met as a class and decided on a sequence of information for our final project.

With all of this information, we needed a way to display it. The students discovered that things happened in a sequence so we decided to create a timeline. They also felt it was important to talk about Polio. After much discussion, we decided to put the facts about Jonas Salk and the vaccine on the timeline and information about people getting Polio on a different place on the bulletin board. There were also some vocabulary words that were important to know so they were written in a separate spot.

