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Purple Day Learning Activities

There are some great websites, listed below, where you will find lots of ideas to help celebrate Purple Day with children. We have included a few ideas in this pack but also consider visiting these websites for even more inspiration.

As an educator, we are sure that you will have other ideas for how to raise awareness and knowledge about epilepsy with your students. You may want to draw upon information contained in the Epilepsy Smart School website to create activities that suit your teaching style and curriculum planning. We are always keen to build upon our suite of school resources, so if you develop a new activity or teaching tool and would like to share it with us please get in touch.

Check out these websites for more great purple themed ideas:

- Kid Activities - [www.kidactivities.net/post/Purpliscious-Color-Theme-Celebration.aspx](http://www.kidactivities.net/post/Purpliscious-Color-Theme-Celebration.aspx)
- Kid Activities - [http://www.kidactivities.net/post/Purple-People-Eater-Theme.aspx](http://www.kidactivities.net/post/Purple-People-Eater-Theme.aspx)
- Preschool Express - [http://www.preschoolexpress.com/theme_station07/purple_apr07.shtml](http://www.preschoolexpress.com/theme_station07/purple_apr07.shtml)

To learn more about epilepsy, discuss how you can support a student living with epilepsy or explore fundraising opportunities feel free to get in connect with your local Epilepsy Australia member organisation:

Epilepsy ACT  
P: (02) 6287 4555  
E: epilepsy@epilepsyact.org.au  
W: [www.epilepsyact.org.au](http://www.epilepsyact.org.au)

Epilepsy Queensland  
P: (07) 3435 5000  
E: epilepsy@epilepsyqueensland.com.au  

Epilepsy WA  
P: (08) 6457 7699  
E: epilepsy@epilepsywa.asn.au  
W: [www.epilepsywa.asn.au](http://www.epilepsywa.asn.au)

Epilepsy Foundation (NSW and Victoria)  
P: (03) 8809 0600 or 1300 761 587  
E: epilepsy@epilepsyfoundation.org.au  

Epilepsy Centre (South Australia and Northern Territory)  
P: 1300 850 081  
E: enquiries@epilepsycentre.org.au  
W: [www.epilepsycentre.org.au](http://www.epilepsycentre.org.au)

Epilepsy Tasmania  
P: (03) 6344 6881  
E: epilepsy@epilepsytasmania.org.au  
W: [www.epilepsytasmania.org.au](http://www.epilepsytasmania.org.au)
Early Learning Activities

Purple Pasta Necklaces

Materials required:
- Penne pasta noodles or whatever type will thread easily
- Red and blue food colouring
- String

Directions:
- Pour about 5 drops of red food dye and 5 drops of blue food dye into half a cup of water in a container such as a plastic take away tub.
- Then place one cup of pasta into the dyed water. After only a few minutes remove the pasta and place it on to absorbent paper to allow it to dry.
- Ensure the pasta does not become too wet when placed into the water as, if this happens, it will be difficult to use later. Once on the paper place the pasta in a warm spot and leave it to dry completely. When pasta is fully dry it is ready to thread onto pieces of string.

Extension:
Once the pasta has dried and children have threaded it onto string, you may wish to spread the pasta lightly with glue and roll it in purple glitter to make the new jewellery even more impressive.

Make a Purple Collage

Materials required:
- You can use any of the following: purple material scraps, paper, wool, buttons, cotton balls, confetti, paint, magazine images.
- Scissors
- Paper
- Glue

Directions:
- Select the purple materials for the children to use. Or have the children bring a selection of purple materials to school!
- Cut out the collage pieces
- Arrange pieces on a piece of paper
- Glue down to form the purple collage.
Thumb Print Grapes
Materials required:
• Purple paint
• Paper

Directions:
Using purple finger-paints or stamp pads have children use their thumbprints to make a purple picture, bunches of grapes or purple people. For purple people they need to add legs and arms, faces etc.

Purple Headband
Materials required:
• Construction paper or poster board
• Scissors
• Stapler
• Glue
• Scraps of purple fabrics, paper, feathers, sparkles etc.
• Crayons

Directions:
• Cut a strip of brown construction paper or poster board about one and a half inches wide.
• Measure the length by placing the headband around each child's head and stapling the ends of the paper strip together to fit snugly.
• The children can then place purple materials or draw a purple themed design on the headband.

Paper Bag Kite
Materials required:
• Large paper bag
• Hole punch
• Paper ring reinforcement (optional)
• Scissors & string
• Paint or crayons
• Stapler or glue
• Crepe paper streamers

Directions:
• Punch a hole on each of the four corners of a large paper bag, at least one inch from the edge of the bag.
• Place paper ring reinforcement on each hole (if you are using them).
• Cut two 90 cm lengths of string and tie each end to a hole to form two loops.
• Cut another 90 cm length of string and tie it through the two loops to create a handle.
• Have children decorate the bag with purple paint or purple crayons, and give them purple crepe paper streamers to glue or staple onto the bag.
• When children hold onto the string and run, the kite will fill with air and float behind them.

**Finger Painting**  
**Materials required:**  
• Purple paint  
• Paper  

**Directions:**  
• Encourage the children to use their fingers to draw purple paintings!
Purple Paper Plate Masks

Materials required:
- Paper plate
- Scissors
- Textas
- Stick or elastic to hold the mask in pace

Directions:
- Use the template to assist you in providing directions to the children for drawing their face on the paper plate
- Cut the mask out
- Direct masks e.g. purple texta, glitter

---

**Paper Plate Masks**

This mask and nose is made from one paper plate. Use purple felt tip pens, pencils and crayons. Highlight with purple glitter glue and sequins.
Foundation/Level 1/Level 2 Activities
Activities for Foundation / Level 1 / Level 2

Purple Scavenger Hunt: Organise a purple scavenger hunt either in the classroom or in the playground. Even easier have a scavenger hunt through magazines for purple things.

Purple Handprints: Mix a small amount of red liquid paint and blue liquid paint together to create purple. Let the children create hand print paintings.

**Extension idea:** Draw the outline of a butterfly’s body (a long oval with a smaller circle at one end). Cut out and glue/or staple the handprints to each side of the body (three on each side) the fingers should point outwards. Fold a pipe cleaner in half. Curl the ends or wind them into balls. The folded pipe cleaner will become the butterfly's antennae. Tape or staple the bent part of the pipe cleaner to the back side of the butterfly's head. Students can decorate the wings with black crayons if they wish.

Purple Sunglasses: Make purple coloured sunglasses by cutting frames out of purple cardboard and glue matching purple cellophane over the eyeholes (if you do not have purple cellophane use red and blue and combine the colours to make purple.) Then attach pipe cleaners to the sides of the frames and bend them to fit over the children's ears.

Purple Puzzles: Students draw a ‘purple picture’ on A3 white paper using purple crayons or textas. When their picture is finished they need to cut it into several fairly large pieces and put the pieces in a zip lock bag and write their name on the bag. Then set out all the puzzles on a table and let students choose one (not their own) to try and piece together.

Purple Giant: Make a giant out of purple play dough. He must be as tall as possible and able to stand up on his own. He is wearing large, heavy boots.

Purple Energiser: Students stand in a circle and pass around a purple scarf (or similar object). The first student says: “This is a purple scarf but now it is a ...” (and they use their imagination to come up with an idea - e.g. but now it is a purple hat) and they wind it around their head like a hat. It is then passed to the next student who says “This is a purple hat but now it is ... (and they must come up with an imaginative idea with a matching action - e.g. a purple skipping rope and skip with the scarf). The scarf is passed around the circle. Every child has had a turn of repeating a new idea and creating their own idea, and matching action, with the purple scarf.
Purple Tiled Floor

Materials required:
A copy of this page for each student

Directions:
Ask the students to:
• Colour in each row of ten tiles using purple and another colour to make a pattern.
• How many purple tiles do you have in each row?
• How many tiles in each row are not purple?
Purple Day – Six Thinking Hats
Activity for Level 1 or Level 2

This activity is based on Edward de Bono’s ‘Six Thinking Hats’ process which assists people to be more productive, focused and mindfully involved. Each thinking role separates thinking into six clear functions and roles, utilising the coloured symbolic ‘thinking hat’.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>White Hat Thinking (facts)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>List all the purple things you have in your house. Identify and draw them in groups depending on how you use them.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Red Hat Thinking (feelings)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How would you feel if you were only allowed to wear purple clothes?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yellow Hat Thinking (explore +’s)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What would be some benefits of adding an extra purple light to a set of traffic lights?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Blue Hat Thinking (manage)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Put on whichever hat you need to complete this task! Draw a picture and hide a purple sock somewhere in your picture.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Green Hat Thinking (creativity)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Make up your own recipe for a Purple Pie.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Black Hat Thinking (judgement)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What would be some of problems if, by law, all cars had to be purple?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Further information:
For more information about this visit [http://www.debonogroup.com/six_thinking_hats.php](http://www.debonogroup.com/six_thinking_hats.php)
Lots and Lots of Shapes

Activity for Level 1 or Level 2

- Find the medium sized oval and add spots
- Find the biggest circle and draw spikes around it
- Find the smallest rectangle and add stripes
- Find the medium sized square and draw a cat asleep in the middle
- Find the medium triangle use it as a roof for a house
- Make the smallest oval into an eye
- Draw a smiley face in the medium circle
- Draw a picture of your classroom inside the largest rectangle
- Divide the largest square into four equal sections and colour one quarter purple
- Draw a giraffe inside the medium rectangle
- Fill all other shapes with purple patterns
**Level 3/Level 4 Activities**

**Purple Day Thinking**
Conversation starters to think purple!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Reverse</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>List 10 things that could never be purple.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The What If</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What if the lenses on all glasses were purple?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Alphabet</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>List as many words as you can that are associated with the colour purple.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Question</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The answer is purple.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What are 5 possible questions to that answer?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Inventions</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Design an outfit for your Purple Hero to wear.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List there traits that make him or her hero.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Purple People Eater Maths Task

Materials required:
- Pencil
- Eraser
- Copy of this page

Directions: Copy each square of the Purple People Eater cartoon onto the larger grid below to enlarge the Purple People Eater.
Wordsearch: Things that can be purple

Materials required:
- Copy of this page
- Pen/pencil
- Dictionary

1. Find the words:

v d j p w i i o u i b g d z b f o z e i
u l z t n h m m z k b c i f a w e n i a
t e b a s l x x b v s s v n l w x p h l
n o b o v v u b l l r d i l o n a c h
b m b h m a f q c r k s c k o o w p n c
x d u q t n g p u c a r d p o l s e u u
w s x s v u f l x x d i s a n g e r r c
o c v e k g j w v q v q z n e a t t c s
j c z y i u c g a g l a n o b b i r s f
h n y c m x m t w t g r s w b d h x e c
x b t i c w i t p q n e w e k n v a i k
m b l y r f b a b v p p l n o a t h t k
e f y o t p y l q a t m h p h h u m r s
w k d m z x f s r a u u s u e x s f a h
f j x c e k a g h j y j i r s n c u m z
j s r k e e m n u z s e s p u s v z s l
x c a d v o g a w s c n f l b o x j k d
z j p j h v i z h o i p s e p c l m k o
f e e y s o e a m m d c p d k f o b q
u c a z e f c q x f r k j q k s h o c w

balloon  grapes  paper  smarties  beads  handbag  purple
socks     box      hats      ribbon     vase     car      jumper
scrunchie violets  card      napkin    shoes    wool     feather

Are there any others that you can find?

2. Find the dictionary meanings:

understand
seizure
awareness
stigma
Level 5/Level 6/Level 7 Activities

Become a Purple Day Hero on March 26th and help spread the word about epilepsy.

Around 250,000 Australians are living with epilepsy. But the number of people impacted by epilepsy is much higher. In fact millions of Australians are affected by epilepsy when you consider all of the loved ones, friends and colleagues who support people living with epilepsy.

Epilepsy is a complex neurological condition that occurs in the brain. Epilepsy can affect a person’s education, employment and independence. Some people with epilepsy also experience social isolation because they fear that disclosing their condition to others will lead to discrimination or stigma. Some people with epilepsy also live with depression and anxiety.

Epilepsy is different for everyone who lives with it. In some cases a person may have convulsive seizures, whereas others have non-convulsive seizures. It is estimated that there are around 60 different types of seizures.

Around 70% of people with epilepsy have their seizures controlled by specific medications or other treatments. The remaining 30% have uncontrolled epilepsy and live with regular seizures, despite taking medications or undertaking other treatments such as surgery.

Epilepsy Australia is committed to ensuring that no one with epilepsy goes it alone. You can help us to achieve this too, particularly on Purple Day!

What is Purple Day?
March 26 is Purple Day - an international day dedicated to raising awareness of epilepsy. On Purple Day people across Australia, and the world, are asked to ‘go purple’ and spread the word about epilepsy in their school, community, workplace and home! Epilepsy Australia has led Purple Day activities across the country for many years, and over that time watched it grow from strength to strength each year.

Would you like to become a ‘Purple Day Hero’?
You can show your support for people living with epilepsy by becoming a Purple Day Hero. When you ‘Go Purple’ you help to not only spread awareness but to also reduce the stigma still associated with this condition. You can also help Epilepsy Australia to raise additional funds so that we can continue to provide much-needed services to people living with epilepsy near your school. Each state and territory has an Epilepsy organisation that will help you to do this.

How can you become a ‘Purple Day Hero’?
As a Purple Day Hero you are making a stand for people living with epilepsy. You can spread the word that epilepsy is not something to be feared, not something that people should be afraid of, and not something we should make people feel bad about. After all it’s a health condition, and people with epilepsy deserve to be treated with respect and empathy.
Purple Day Hero

Directions:
Either in a group or individually read the text above and then look at the following statements.

Ask the students to tick the box if they agree with the statement, cross if they disagree.

 Literal Statements (the author said it)
Does the text say this? What words support your answer? Highlight these words in the article. Choose one colour to highlight your text.

☐ Epilepsy is a disorder that occurs in the brain.
☐ People with epilepsy have no problem finding employment.
☒ Purple Day has been held in Australia for the past several years.
☒ Australia is the only country supporting Purple Day.

 Inferential Statements (the author meant it)
Does the text give you this idea? What words or phrases support your answer? Remember to use a different colour to highlight text related to these questions.

☐ Epilepsy can be a complex medical condition.
☐ There is a lot of misinformation about epilepsy in society.
☐ Epilepsy Australia is the only organisation involved with Purple Day.
☐ Purple Day is only about raising money to help people with epilepsy.

 Reflective Statements (what do you, the reader, think?)
Do you agree with this? Why / Why not? Be prepared to share your reasons

☐ Students with epilepsy would feel anxious going on a camp.
☐ Only students who have epilepsy need to learn about it.

Further information about your state or territory Epilepsy organisation:
http://www.epilepsyaustralia.net/findyourlocal/
Habits of Mind
Listening with understanding and empathy

When you understand something you should be able to explain to others what it is that is understood.

When you show empathy you are showing that you understand what another person may be feeling or going through.

Therefore when you listen with understanding and empathy you:

1. Understand the subject affecting the person or people
2. Can understand how the person or people are feeling

Directions:
Discuss what epilepsy is with the class and then make the following statement. Ask the students to reflect on what this means (understand) and consider what this would be like for the people with epilepsy (empathy).
Shapes Galore

Directions:
• Find the large tetrahedron and draw a star on top.
• Find the net of the pentahedron and add stripes on the four-sided face.
• Draw a cat asleep on top of the cuboid.
• Find the small tetrahedron and use it as a roof for a house.
• Make the oval into an eye.
• Draw a smiley face in the larger circle.
• Turn the octahedron into a spaceship.
• Draw ice cream on top of the cone.
• Draw a giraffe inside the rectangle
• Divide the larger square into four equal sections and colour one quarter purple.
• Make a food label to go on the cylinder.
• Fill all other shapes with the word PURPLE written in creative ways.
Word Web

Directions:
Ask each student to complete as much information as they can associate with the word Empathy. Students can use a dictionary to help them if required.

- Synonym
- Definition
- Antonym
- Words within words
  Use the letters in the word to create new words
- Part of Speech
- Word Families
- Origin