



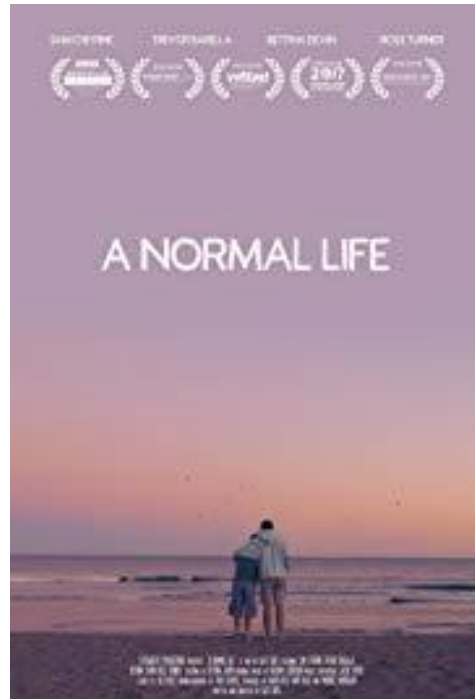


# Learning from Those We Label

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# “A Normal Life”



2016



“I don’t want him to be remembered as that disabled kid. I just want him to be remembered as Nat. Nothing special just Nat.”

# Down Syndrome



- Down Syndrome is a genetic disorder where a person has 47 chromosomes instead of 46, this extra chromosome is usually chromosome 21.
- Down Syndrome is classified as a Mild Intellectual Disability (MID),
- Learning differences may vary from child to child, some may develop slower than their peers, it all depends on the child and their diagnosis.

# Down Syndrome

## Incidence and Prevalence

- 1 in 700 (143 in 100,000) babies born worldwide each year have Down Syndrome,
- 6,000 babies are born with Down Syndrome in Canada each year,
- Down Syndrome is slightly more common in males than females.

## Three Types of Down Syndrome

- Trisomy 21,
- Mosaic Down Syndrome,
- Translocation Down Syndrome.

# Early Intervention



Why an inclusive classroom?

# Teaching Strategies

- Allow excess time to finish tasks,
- Break up tasks into smaller steps,
- Speak in short sentences and allow time for the student to respond,
- Encourage speech,
- Make eye-contact,
- Be clear with commands and use simple ones,
- Limit the amount of text on a page,
- Help the students focus on given tasks,
- Place students in a area of the classroom with few distractions,
- Use charts and pictures for scheduling,
- Text and auditory instructions may need to be enhanced,
- Set long term and short term goals,
- Collaborate with students and their family.



# Making a classroom more inclusive

- All students must be accountable for their behaviour,
- Nurture a safe and welcoming classroom,
- Be a role model for all students,
- Seat students next to supportive peers and groups,
- One on one “tutoring” with another student,
- Include an EA in the classroom,
- Encourage students to interact with their peers,
- Raise awareness in the classroom and in the school.

# 21 21 21

Down syndrome is an extra copy of the 21<sup>st</sup> chromosome.

Do something extra to promote the  
**VALUE, ACCEPTANCE** and **INCLUSION**  
of people with Down syndrome.

Learn more at [www.ndss.org](http://www.ndss.org).

national down syndrome society  
**ndss.**

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