

**Extension Activity for TOM'S SPECIAL TALENT by Kate Gaynor**

**Objectives:**

- Students will understand that they each have a special talent as well as activities that are challenging for them.
- Students will have a deeper understanding of dyslexia by hearing Tom's story.

**Materials:** Copy of Tom's Special Talent

**Time:** 30 minutes

**Activity:**

*Option 1:*

1. Read Tom's Special Talent aloud to the class.
2. Ask students to think about their own special talents and pick one that is important to them.
3. Have students stand up in a circle.
4. Go around the circle and have each student say their name and talent while acting it out (i.e. pantomime drawing, throwing a ball, dancing, etc.)
5. After the student says their name and does their pantomime, have the other students repeat their name and the action. Do this for each student.

*Option 2:*

1. Read Tom's Special Talent aloud to the class.
2. Partner students up.
3. Ask the students to tell their partner about their special talent and why they like the activity.
4. Go around the circle and have partners introduce the other person's talent (i.e. "This is Sarah her talent is ice skating. She practices every week.")