Learning Differences Puppet Program

What to expect:
Jennifer is rehearsing for the school talent show and is frustrated. When Melody talks to her about it, Jennifer says she has a Learning Difference (LD). Jennifer has trouble knowing left from right, reading and writing, but she doesn’t have any trouble with math. Melody has a lot of questions about what Learning Differences are. Jennifer shares information and takes questions from the audience.

Key Program Points:
- Some people say “Learning Disability.” Jennifer likes to say “Learning Difference.”
- LD doesn’t mean that Jennifer can’t learn, she just learns in a different way.
- We all learn differently, but if someone has LD, it means that special teachers have figured out that s/he is having more difficulty learning something than his/her peers.
- If you have a Learning Difference in one area (for example, in reading) it doesn’t necessarily mean you have LD in another area (like math).
- LD has to do with how your brain is wired. You are born with it. Having a Learning Difference means your brain is challenged in taking in, processing, or giving out information.
- Teachers like Ms. Ricci (Jennifer’s Special Educator) help students learn tips and tricks to learn. These strategies can be used in all subjects and for your whole life.
- Sometimes having LD can be frustrating.
- Everyone deserves respect. Nobody wants to be teased or laughed at.
- Everyone has things that s/he is good at, and things that are challenging.
- Students should be given work that is right for their ability level. This may be different in different subjects.
- If you have LD, you can still go to college or have the job you want, you just might need to find some tools to help you with any challenges you have.
- Real friends don’t mind things like Learning Differences!

Resources:
http://www.vermontfamilynetwork.org/resources/resources-by-topic/learning-disabilities-resources/
http://www.includevt.org/

For more information about our programs or ways we support families, please visit VermontFamilyNetwork.org or PuppetsInEducation.org or call (800) 800-4005.