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Educating and accepting

Saturday, May 13, 2017 1:00 AM

National Cornelia de Lange Syndrome (CdLS) Awareness Day is observed the second Saturday of May each year in order to bring attention to this often misdiagnosed genetic syndrome. Since CdLS is unfamiliar to most people, Awareness Day is an opportunity to educate others about the syndrome. Angie Brown, a 2nd and 3rd grade teacher at Nicholson, used this time to educate local students on CdLS, a syndrome that her daughter, Addison, was diagnosed with in 2007. CdLS only occurs in 1 in 10,000 live births. Parents and families make a point to help spread awareness, by giving presentations at schools, leaving brochures and information packets at doctor's offices, and wearing purple. People with CdLS, often have difficulty with vision, hearing, speaking, walking and feeding, along with cognitive delays that make it difficult to learn. Brown brought in four of her Nicholson students to Hose Elementary to give a short presentation on the effects of CdLS, and the importance of being kind to one another. "I feel it's so important to teach students to treat kids with disabilities kindly. Addison sees a variety of different doctors at Riley Hospital in order to address all of her needs. She is a very inspirational little girl who preservers and never gives up. We are blessed to be her parents." said Brown.



The Paper photo by Stacey Baschwit Pictured left to right, Mrs. Brown's third grade students Rylee Brown, Reese Caton, Mason McCarty, Ethan Owens and Mrs. Brown.

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