



Person First Language Activity

The following paragraph is one possible answer that shows person-first language use. Deletions are shown, and their replacements are in bold.

There was a time when ~~mentally retarded~~ kids **with intellectual disability** weren't allowed to go to school. They were institutionalized or kept at home. The parents of these ~~feeble-minded~~ students with Down's Syndrome and intellectual disability, and of others who ~~were wheelchair bound, mute, afflicted with diseases like polio~~ **used wheelchairs, had speech disabilities, had diseases like polio**, and others, began to fight for the rights of their children to receive a free public education. Because of these advocacy efforts, in 1973, the Rehabilitation Act was signed into law. It prohibited any agency receiving federal funding, including most public schools, from discriminating against a ~~disabled~~ child **with a disability**. This paved the way for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), which ensures educational services for all ~~handicapped~~ children **with disabilities** throughout the nation. These laws have provided ~~disabled~~ students **with disabilities** the right to receive an education at their neighborhood school with their peers (adapted from [Virginia Beach City Public Schools' Office of Programs for Exceptional Children](#)).