

The New Kid (empathy)

He was just seven when they threw paper airplanes at his head.
The new kid at school; "He's so short!" they said.
The bullies called him names, and judged him for his clothes.
He thought, "If they do this one more time, I may just explode".

He put on a fake smile while moving through the hall.
But on the inside he thinks " I wish that I were tall".
So I go up and ask him: "How are you doing today?"
But he just shrugs and tries to brush me away.

So I asked him where he moved from and "does he like sports?"
"I am the biggest basketball fan in the world" he reports.
"Me too!" I say. "Do you play on a team?"
"I am too short, but that would be my dream"
"You are not too short! Why don't we go now and play?"
And I pick up a ball and lead the way.

He followed behind with a smile spread between his ears
And that was the start of a friendship that lasted for years.
So don't hesitate to try to bridge the divide.
You never know what may be hiding inside.