

Mental Retardation *Of Mice and Men*

Lennie Small is a fictional character with a learning problem. Some people would say that Lennie is mentally retarded because he doesn't think as quickly as others, control himself as well as people his age, and talks a bit differently. If Lennie was around today, he would have many opportunities that were not available to people with special needs in the 1930's.

TASK: Read the articles presented on the link from my homepage and create a poster about mental retardation. When you get to my homepage, click on mental retardation and you will immediately recognize the web site from the handout that I copied in class (taken from the original web site for ease of navigation).

PROCEDURE: Read the articles from the Internet and answer the following questions in your group:

- What is mental retardation?
- What are adaptive skills? List ten.
- What percent of the people have mental retardation?
- Explain why mental retardation is NOT considered to be a disease.
- Explain what employers need to provide for anyone who is mentally or physically disabled.
- Explain what the public transportation system needs to do to help anyone who is mentally or physically disabled.
- Explain what do restaurants, hotels, and retail stores need to provide to assist the mentally or physically disabled population.

EXPECTATIONS FOR POSTER:

- Colorful, neat, creative, and containing accurate information
- Must cover all of the necessary points regarding mental retardation
- All group members should share the work load