

## Anika and the Head Scarf

Read the following story. When finished, write what you think the ending of the story should be. Then, answer the questions that follow.

*Anika was excited for the first day of school! She put on her new purple dress. She also put on the matching hijab (head scarf) that her mother bought her. This would be the first year Anika would wear a hijab like a grown-up Muslim woman. She could not wait to meet new friends at her new school! She walked into class and heard girls laughing. One of them pointed to her head scarf. Another girl pretended to wear a tissue on her head. One of the girls told Anika she should take off her head scarf. Anika asked her teacher if she had to take it off. Her teacher said,*

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1. Why does Anika wear a head scarf?

2. Why do you think the girls made fun of Anika?

3. Does her teacher have the power to tell her to remove her head scarf? Why or why not?

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4. What advice would you give to Anika's teacher?

5. Have you ever felt different because of your beliefs? If so, how did it make you feel?

6. It is the law in our country that the government cannot interfere with or prevent us from following our religious beliefs. Work with a partner to write a classroom rule below about respecting everyone's beliefs.