

# Benefits of Diversity

Identity and Perspective,  
Module 1



# AGENDA



1. Brainstorm: Without using the words “race” or “color”, what is the definition of “diversity”?

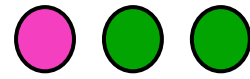


2. Activity: Working with a partner, take turns interviewing each other. Discuss how your differences enhances your understanding of the world. Be prepared to share your findings with the class.



3. Reflect: What are the benefits of collaborating with a group of diverse people or living in a diverse community?



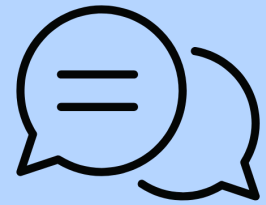


# BRAINSTORM



Without using the words “race” or “color”, what is the definition of “diversity”?



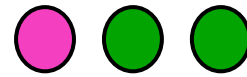


# DISCUSS



**Diversity** really means being different, including race, culture, gender, age, family structure, education, religion, sexual orientation, life experiences, and socioeconomic differences. Diversity can also include differences in the ways that we think about things- our opinions, values, and interests.

**Inclusion** means to bring people into a group, and to feel like a member of a group is important for our well-being. Being part of a group helps to regulate our body-budget.



# DIVE IN

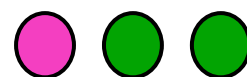
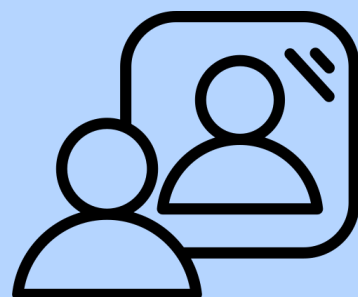


*Diversity is about all of us and about us having to figure out how to walk through this world together. - Jacqueline Woodson, Author*

*When we listen and celebrate what is both common and different, we become a wiser, more inclusive, and better organization. - Pat Wadors, Business Executive*

*Inclusivity means not 'just we're allowed to be there,' but we are valued. I've always said: smart teams will do amazing things, but truly diverse teams will do impossible things.*

*~ Claudia Brind-Woody, business executive*



# ACTIVITY



Activity: Working with a partner, take turns interviewing each other. Discuss how your differences enhances your understanding of the world. Be prepared to share your findings with the class.



## Worksheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Diversity

**Directions:** Working with a partner that you don't know well, Take turns interviewing each other, then take the Inclusion Challenge.

1.) Find three new facts about your partner:

| Partner 1 name | Partner 2 name |
|----------------|----------------|
|                |                |
|                |                |
|                |                |

2.) Find two areas in which you have similarities:

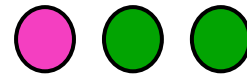
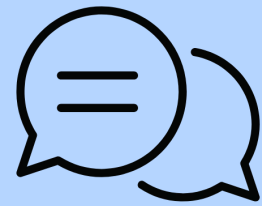
| Partner 1 | Partner 2 |
|-----------|-----------|
|           |           |
|           |           |

3.) Find one area in which you are different:

| Partner 1 | Partner 2 |
|-----------|-----------|
|           |           |

4.) Investigate/Discuss how that difference is an asset, be prepared to share with the class:





# REFLECT



What are the benefits of collaborating with a group of diverse people or living in a diverse community?

Guiding Questions:

- Have you ever felt excluded? How did it feel?
- Can you think of a time when you learned something from someone who was different from you?



# Extend & Enrich

Students can write newspaper stories about their partner or create video/multimedia presentations.





# Home Connection



High School

## Home Connection

### Benefits of Diversity

Dear Parents,

I'm excited to share that your student has been learning about the importance of diversity and inclusion in class. They discussed the various ways people can be different, beyond just race and culture, including gender, age, family structure, education, religion, sexual orientation, life experiences, and socioeconomic differences. Students explored the value of these differences and how they contribute to a more inclusive and enriching environment.

**\*\*Discussion Prompt for Home:\*\***

Please discuss this question with your student: "What's the definition of "diversity"?" This will help reinforce their understanding of diversity and its significance.

Thank you for your support!

Best regards,

[Your Name]  
[Your Title]  
[Your School]

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## Professional Development



Take 5 minutes to consider: how do you embrace and welcome diversity in your classroom community. In this an area in which you'd like to improve? How?







# Further Study

- Common Sense Media: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity Resources for the Classroom  
<https://www.commonsense.org/education/top-picks/diversity-equity-and-inclusivity-resources-for-classrooms>
- Learning for Justice: Lesson Plans for Exploring Identity and Diversity  
<https://www.learningforjustice.org/topics>
- 52 Essential Questions to Inspire Children for Life: Podcast topics include talking to students about inclusion, race, gender, and more.  
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/52-essential-conversations-to-inspire-children/id1418151997>







**Lesson Complete!**



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