

# EMBRACING CULTURAL DIVERSITY

## GRADE LEVEL

1-3

## ESTIMATED TIME

60m



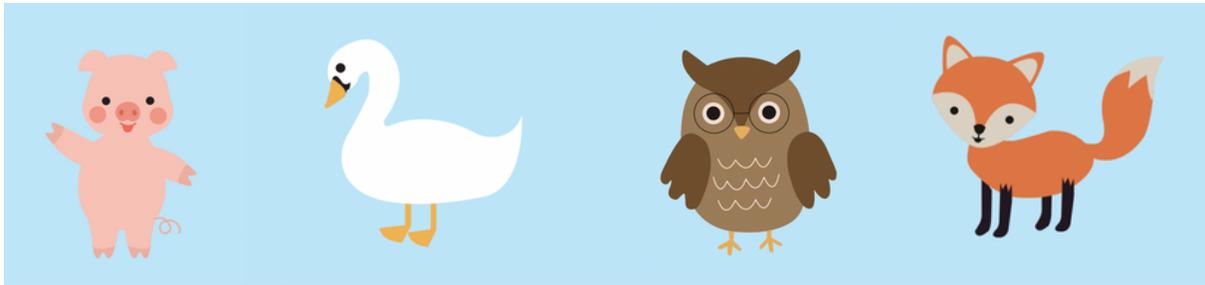
## OVERVIEW

This lesson plan serves to educate primary-aged students on the meaning and basic components of culture, familiarize students with differences, and inspire students to appreciate and embrace diversity. While animosity towards other cultures often arises from misunderstanding or lack of education, this activity-based lesson plan provides students with the opportunities to explore their own cultural backgrounds and learn new perspectives from their classmates, which ultimately leads to the emergence of a respectful discussion-friendly environment.

## RESOURCES AND PREPARATION

Materials:

- A printed worksheet for each student (attached)
- A large piece of construction paper and markers



## OBJECTIVES

- Students will be able to understand the meaning and basic components of culture
- Students will share their own cultural identities and learn about their classmates' cultural identities, appreciating that we are all unique
- Students will learn to appreciate the similarities and differences between cultures

## LESSON PROCEDURE

### **Part 1: Introduction to Culture (~5 minutes)**

1. Start the lesson by asking the class three questions:
  - How many of you have heard of the term “culture”?
  - What is culture?
  - [Provide a brief definition of culture: beliefs, values, and practices of a group of people.]
  - How does our culture shape who we are?

### **Part 2: Activity (~20 minutes)**

1. Pass out the attached worksheet & explain to students they will be exploring what makes them unique and to fill out the worksheet based on their own personal identities and culture.
  - They can draw or write in the boxes.
2. Give students around 20 minutes to complete the activity.

### **Part 3: Share and Compare (~10 minutes)**

1. In groups, have students share & compare their charts.
2. Ask them to see if they have anything in common with the other people in their group and to reflect on their similarities.
3. Then ask students to observe the differences & why they are different.

#### **Part 4: Class Discussion (~15 minutes)**

1. As a class, have each student (or any volunteers) share something that makes them special and something they found unique about their groupmates.
2. Explain to the students that everyone is different & our differences make us unique and special.
3. Ask the students to think about what the world would be like if everyone looked, spoke, and acted the same way. Encourage students to share their answers with the class.

### **STUDENT ASSESSMENT/REFLECTIONS**

#### **Part 5: Closing Reflection Activity (~10 minutes)**

1. Ask every student to choose one thing about them that makes them unique.
2. On a large piece of paper, have each student choose their favorite color marker and write their name and what makes them unique.
  - Optional: Give the uniqueness sheet a title, have students decorate it, and hang it on the classroom wall!

My Language(s)

My Religion

My Rituals /  
Celebrations

\_\_\_\_\_'s Culture

My Clothing Style

My Family

My Hobbies

My Language(s)

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