

## RESEARCH

- Emphasize similarities rather than differences
- <https://thenoraproject.ngo/general-resources>
- <https://www.wholechildcounseling.com/post/how-to-talk-with-kids-about-diversity-and-inclusion>
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=euRtz813o\\_M](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=euRtz813o_M) - based on the skit
  - How to start the conversation, why to talk about DEI, different approaches for kids vs teens

**LEARNING OBJECTIVE:** Demonstrating inclusion between a group of students despite one of the students being different from the two others

## LESSON PLAN

- Material needed:
  - Sheets of paper
  - markers/crayons
  - Pre-draw/colored pictures for the skit
- Icebreaker/introduction (~3 minutes)
- Skit (~10 mins)
- Distribute their materials (~3 mins)
- Follow-up questions (15-20 mins)

Characters:

1. Teacher
2. Student #1 with multiple color markers
3. Student #2 with one color marker

Scene: In art class

Teacher- “Okay class today we are going to be working on our garden drawings! So, get your colored pencils out, get started, and be creative.”

Student #1 - “I am going to use as many colors as possible! I want mine to be colorful and fun!”

Student #2 - “I’m only going to use orange colored pencils.”

Student #1 - “Abby can I see your drawing?”

(Student #2 shows her picture)

Student #1 - “oh. Why is it all orange? It looks a little boring and I can’t really tell what it is.”

Student #2 - “Orange is the only color that I like. Why did you use so many different colors?”

Teacher - “It is difficult to draw a landscape with only one color, but if you use multiple colors the picture is more beautiful and inclusive”

Student #1 - “yeah! My mom told me inclusivity is important!”

Student #2 - “That makes sense. I do think my picture would look much better if I included some other colors.”

Teacher - “Yes, just imagine what it would look like if everyone around you guys looked the same, had the same hair color or same eye color. It would be boring, wouldn't it? Everyone brings their own uniqueness to this world.”

Student #1 - “Isn't that what diversity is?”

Student #2 - “What's diversity?”

Teacher - “Yes, Riley, would you be able to explain what diversity means to your friend Abby?”

Student #1 - “Diversity is having lots of differences between people. In fact, there is diversity everywhere, in animals, trees, and plants! Everyone at school is diverse in some way!”

Student #2 - “Why is diversity important?”

Teacher - “Diversity is important for creating a world where everyone feels safe, included, and respected. It's especially important in schools, where everyone deserves the same opportunities as everyone else. Therefore, regardless of our differences, we should treat everyone around us with respect and celebrate differences.”

## **FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS**

1. Have you heard of words like diversity and inclusion?
  - a. If yes, how do you define these words?
2. What do you think the world would be like if everyone was the same? (Draw a picture)
3. Can you think of any examples of how people can be different from each other? For example, Klara and Riley have blue eyes and Abby has brown eyes.
4. Have you ever felt left out or treated differently because of who you are?
  - a. How did it make you feel?
5. What does it mean to be fair or treat everyone equally? (Draw a picture)
  - a. Can you share a situation where you saw fairness in action?
6. How can we make sure everyone in our school or community feels included and a part of the group?
7. Why is it important to stand up for someone who is being treated unfairly or unkindly?
8. Do you have any questions about diversity and inclusion for us?