

Objectives: Students will explore the idea of difference and look at how they are different from each other. They will learn the importance of embracing each other's differences instead of letting it divide them.

Outcome: Students will understand what it means to be different, how that is okay, and how they can accept each other's whole identity and self.

The Lesson: Accepting Difference

Introduction / Background information on the topic: used to set up the lesson but also help instructor teach it

- **Key points:** information/content that should be provided
 - **Supplemental information:** at the discretion of the educator. Can be things such as primary and secondary texts, images, audio or video recordings, etc.
- Definitions/Concepts to discuss with the class:
 - Diversity: Treating everyone equally with respect and accepting how they are different from you
 - Respect: Caring how words and actions may impact others
 - Acceptance: Indication that you approve of or believe in it (or them)
 - Difference: Things that are not the same
 - Forgiveness: An intentional decision to let go of resentment and anger.
- The students should have an understanding of these terms before watching the video. The video helps to explain them more, and give them a simplified understanding of how to accept people for who they are.
- First ask if any of the students have ever heard these words before. Learn about where they have heard it from, whether it be television, family members, a book, etc. Ask them what they think those words mean, before telling them the definitions given here.

Pre-lesson reflections: can be used to get the students ready to learn about the topic

1. What are some things you love about yourself?
2. What do you love about your family?

Individual / small-group activity:

Have the students Interview the person next to them:

1. What is your favorite song?
2. What is your favorite movie/TV show?
3. What is your favorite fun thing to do?
4. Do you like to play sports? Do art? Read?
5. What is your favorite food?

After the students get answers to these questions from the person next to them, ask them:

What is one thing that you had different answers for?

Knowing that you are different, do you like that person any less?

How can those two different things make you closer?

- Ex: If two students have different favorite movies, they could show each other the movie they think is the best and tell the other what about that movie makes them happy

Whole-group activity:

Watch this read-aloud video of the book *Acceptance is my Superpower* by Alicia Ortega:

[Acceptance is my Superpower by Alicia Ortega](#)

(9:19)

- If you have access to a library or special resources, the book is available for purchase [Here](#). If not, that is totally fine because the video showcases the illustrations and reads the book for you to the children at a good slow pace.

Discussion:

1. What did Lucas do?
2. Why was Lucas making fun of Lisa?
3. How were Lisa and Lucas different?
4. What did Lisa's parents teach her?
5. What did Lucas do to apologize?
6. Why did Lisa forgive him?
7. Why did Lisa say it was okay to be different?
8. How can people be different?
9. Does being different change how you love someone?