



ORGANIZATIONAL GROWTH, INC

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ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE CROSS-CULTURAL SENSITIVITY

AND UNDERSTANDING AMONG STUDENTS

Developed by Nate Terrell, LCSW and Anita Foeman, Ph.D.

- 1) Ask students to identify their cultural, racial, etc. heritage and discuss how it has impacted their life, worldview, etc. It is often helpful to begin by sharing your own stories, experiences, etc.
- 2) Teach students about the history, traditions, etc. of all cultural/racial groups through presentations, reading/research assignments, etc.
- 3) Ask students to question their parents, grandparents, etc. about their cultural heritage and present the information they learn to their class. One possible question is “What are the most important things you want me to understand about our culture?”
- 4) Show video about a topic related to diversity and discuss it within the classroom.
- 5) Develop a group of students interested in promoting cross-cultural sensitivity and enable them to be a resource to the entire school community.
- 6) Have all students make a mural about how they want to promote cross-cultural sensitivity in their school and leave it up in the front hall.
- 7) Hold a “Diversity Day” where students have the opportunity to learn about cultural issues through guest speakers, small group discussion, drama, etc.
- 8) Teach students about how stereotypes of cultural groups are developed, the destructive impact they have, why certain groups are stereotyped more than others and what students can do to rid themselves of stereotypes.
- 9) Provide a forum within which students can identify and discuss relevant cultural/racial issues within the school, community, nation, etc.
- 10) Have members of different cultural/racial groups speak to your class about their experiences and/or participate in a panel discussion.
- 11) Teach students strategies they can use effectively address and/or confront others when they exhibit prejudices, cultural insensitivity, etc.
- 12) Make a video of students discussing how they have been impacted by their culture, race, etc. and show it the entire school.

12) Constantly reinforce to students the importance of celebrating cultural differences and treating others with respect.

