

CREATE A CULTURE

Focus	To increase awareness of cultural differences.
Group Size	Entire class
Time Required	One class period
Materials	Small squares of brightly colored paper that cannot be associated with any ethnic group (avoid black, yellow & red). Student Handout: <i>Creating a Culture</i>
Setting	Standard classroom
Process	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Mix the squares of colors and randomly distribute one to each student as they enter the room. Have students meet in respective areas of the room, according to their designated colors.2. Point out to the entire class the different color groups.3. Discuss with the total group the concept of cultural differences in customs and behaviors. Distribute the student handout, <i>Creating a Culture</i> to each group.4. Define the rules to be followed:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. As all cultures were geographically separated and developed on their own, student groups must talk quietly so as not to infect the ideas of other cultural groups.b. All areas of the culture must be talked about and beliefs in that area written down.5. Have the students spend approximately 20 minutes completing the handout on the description of their culture.6. The spokesperson for each color culture presents the outline of their culture to the entire class.7. Write the following summary questions on the board or overhead for all students to see.<ol style="list-style-type: none">a) <i>What prejudices could the other cultures have about your culture?</i>b) <i>Does your culture hold any prejudices against the other cultures?</i>c) <i>What are the "cultures" associated with the social groups in our school?</i>d) <i>How do these social groups interact with each other at school?</i><p>Have each group discuss and answer the questions. The recorder may write group responses on the back of the handout, <i>Creating a Culture</i>.</p>8. Close with a discussion on avoiding prejudices and respecting the differences among cultures and social groups.

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You are members of the culture _____
Create a name for your people and write it here

1. Name the members of your culture: _____

2. What is the family structure in your culture?

3. What are the religious practices of your culture?

4. What are the marital practices in your culture?

5. What are traditional foods in your culture?

6. Does your culture traditionally observe any holidays? List them.

7. What is the traditional clothing of your culture?

8. Does your culture have any heroes? Name them.

9. Who are your cultural leaders and what are their styles of leadership?

10. What is the life expectancy of your people?

11. Are there caste or social classes in your culture? Explain them.

12. Is there identifying jewelry or adornment that would identify your people? List them.

13. How does your culture relate to others?

14. Are there any other identifying traits of your culture? Define them.
