

Exploring Leadership

SOCIAL AWARENESS: TOLERANCE

Youth today will experience more change, see more places, learn more things, and be exposed to a greater variety of people and cultures than any other generation in the history of humankind. To succeed in this complex and diverse world, they'll need to develop the capacity for tolerance and respect.

CONVERSATION STARTER:

If someone treats you badly, how does that effect the way you respond to them?
If someone greets you kindly and warmly, how are you most likely to respond?

If you were to treat those around you with human virtues – such as friendliness, respect, politeness, love, and loyalty which are then conducted with integrity – then don't you think others with similar morals would begin to treat you the same way? It shouldn't take a genius to realize that if people treated you similarly, then your life would be more at peace. And it's unlikely that others would build animosity towards you if you simply reciprocate their earnest actions and feelings back towards them.

KEY OBJECTIVES:

- Understanding tolerance as accepting people for who they are
- Learning to treat others how you wish to be treated

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- Various familiar and popular snack foods.

EXPLORATION ACTIVITY:

Begin your activity by telling youth that they will be taking part in a simulation regarding taste testing of popular snacks.

FACILITATION TIPS:

- Make youth feel special, safe, and loved.
- Create learning opportunities about new places, people, and cultures.
- Intervene when you hear or see intolerant behavior.
- Use positive comments to shape and reinforce youth behavior.

- Have the snacks on a tray to elicit a physical reaction (there may be some salivary action at this point).
- Choose a characteristic that will NOT include everyone. For example: individuals with shoes that have laces or only those wearing denim pants. Inform the youth that only the people with that characteristic will be allowed to participate in the taste testing.
- Listen to the reactions and encourage youth to verbalize how they feel about it.



REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

- How did this activity make you feel? Ask each group separately.
- How were you different? How are you the same?
- Was this activity fair? Why?
- What does diversity mean?
- What does tolerance mean?
- Why is tolerance important? Why is diversity important?

APPLICATION DISCUSSION:

- How can we benefit from putting others feelings first?
- Each person must live their life as a model for others.
- Have you experienced this with others? Have you been the recipient of tolerance and kindness? What types of intolerance have you experienced? Can you identify one person in your life that is a role model for tolerance and respect?
- Without saying it out loud can you think of someone that you were intolerant with or disrespected? Even in silence or behind their back?



CONCLUSION:

Show this [YouTube video](#).

A simple greeting is all it takes to change lives. "Hello" is a short film by Richard Galapate that won the Students' Category at the Nikon Cinema Z Film Festival that took place on November 2019.

Martin Luther King Jr., dreamed of a world more tolerant than the one he lived in. The highest result of education is tolerance. -- Helen Keller

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REFERENCES

- <https://resilienteducator.com/classroom-resources/6-lesson-plans-for-teaching-tolerance/>
- <https://youtu.be/3A07yC5jQ28>