Diversity

Grades K-1

English Language Arts

A bio poem is a poem written about a person. It can help us to learn about ourselves as well as teaching us about the diversity of others. Use this format to write a bio poem:

Line 1: Your Name

Line 2: Three adjectives (describing words) about you

Line 3: Enjoys (name two things)

Line 4: Loves (name two things)

Line 5: Fears (name one thing)

Line 6: Wishes (name one thing)

Line 7: Wonders (name one thing)

Line 8: Plans to (name one thing)

Line 9: Your name repeated

Share your poem and read bio poems written by other people.

- What did you learn about the diversity of your family and friends?
- How does reading about other people help us to understand ourselves and others?

Social Studies

People living together in an area are part of a community. Each person brings their own culture and experiences which contribute to making the community diverse.

With a family member, brainstorm different people in your community. Now think about a few of these people,

- What makes each one unique?
- How do they contribute to the community?
- How do the contributions of these individuals make your community a diverse place to live?

Design a mural or a monument to display in your community that reflects the diversity of your community. Here is a video that shows how one school in Asheville created a mural: https://vimeo.com/67886203

Science

Let's go on a nature hunt for diverse objects! Use an egg carton if you have one. Label each row of the egg carton with one of these words:

Shiny	Light	Soft	Smooth	Dull
Hard	Bumpy	Colorful	Heavy	Transparent

Now, fill in one side of the egg carton with six different things you can find in nature that can be described by that word. Go on multiple hunts with different words. Sort all the diverse things you found into groups.

- Can some things go in more than one group?
- Can you make new groups?
- What big ideas or general statements can you make about diversity in nature?

Mindfulness

Color is a beautiful thing. Reflect on the song and visuals in this video: https://thekidshouldseethis.com/post/color-is-a-beautiful-thing-nina-simone-animation

Find a place to sit in your house or outside in your yard. Sit quietly. Choose a color.

- How many shades of the color you chose can you find?
- What other things are also this color shade?
- How can color help you feel connected to the other living things on earth?

Logic Puzzle

I am going camping and I can bring many diverse items, but not all items. Figure out what I can bring, using the following clues:

- I can take arrows, but not a bow.
- I can take cookies but not cake.
- I can take a hammock, but not a tent.
- I can take a canteen and a bottle, but not water.
- I can take green and yellow, but not blue or red.
- I can take a puppy, but not a dog.
- I can take a book, but not a magazine.

What is the rule for the things I can bring on my camping trip?

Field Studies

Mae Jemison was the first black female astronaut. Watch this video of her talking about her life: https://thekidshouldseethis.com/post/dr-mae-jemison-nasa-astronaut-i-wanted-to-go-into-space

Mae chose to take three things to space to represent groups that had not been included there before.

If you were to become an astronaut and could take three things that represent the diversity of your culture, community, or country, what would you take and why?

Discuss with a friend or family member what items you would bring and ask them to share what they would choose?

Research Explorations

Our planet is home to many animals. This variety is called biodiversity. Watch this video that shows endangered animals: https://thekidshouldseethis.com/post/22843849341

If we do not support their habitats, they could become extinct, or gone from our planet. Look at the details of these animals and think about the diversity of animals around us.

- Pick an endangered animal in which you are interested.
- Read a book about or have an adult help you research the animal on the internet. Here is a list
 of sites for animal research: http://www.librarypatch.com/2015/01/10-animal-research-websites-for-kids 4.html
- Create a trading card for your animal. Include an illustration, where it lives, what it eats, how it moves, and other distinguishing facts.

Math

When we are with family or friends, we often have to share things. There are diverse ways to share with others. If we have one rectangular cake and one circular pizza for a party, how can we equally divide the cake and pizza for 4 people?

Draw lines on a circle and on a square to show how we can make equal shares.

- If I want to share just my piece of cake with my dog, how can I draw lines to divide one piece equally?
- If I invite 4 more people to the party, how many more cakes and pizzas do I need so everyone will have an equal share? If I can't order more, will we each get more or less food?

Challenge: If there are 10 people at the party, how many pizzas and cakes do we need? Will there be any left over?

Grades 2-3

English Language Arts

The power of stories from diverse cultures is that they act as both "windows" into others' lives and as "mirrors" reflecting our own life experiences. Read a fable, folktale or myth from a culture different than your own.

Create a Color/Symbol/Image to help you recount the story:

- Choose a **color** that you feel represents the main character and explain why/how it represents that character.
- Choose a **symbol** that you feel represents the central message or lesson of the story. State what you feel is the lesson of the story and why, as well as explain your symbol.
- Choose an **image** from the story that you feel captures the main idea of the story and explain it.

Social Studies

You're opening a new restaurant and want to try to capture the interest (and business) of everyone in your community.

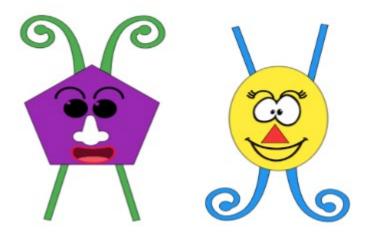
Research and compare the languages, foods and traditions of diverse groups living in your local or regional community. What are commonalities? Differences?

After reflecting upon your research, create a diverse menu and entertainment lineup for your restaurant that celebrates both the differences and similarities of these diverse cultural groups.

Come up with a name that highlights what your restaurant is all about and is welcoming to diverse cultures.

Science

How can a family have the same genetics, yet look so diverse? Genetics is the study of how we pass on characteristics or traits from one family member to the next. Offspring inherit traits from their parents. Here are two monster parents:



Create examples of what their children could look like. Make a list of all the traits you see, including shape, color, feature, etc. to help you design the baby monsters. What would be included in a baby monster that was clearly not their child?

Mindfulness

We all have diverse gifts and talents within us.

Create a jar that represents the different gifts and talents within your family or classroom community. Each person can add what they see as their gifts and talents to the jar, either by writing them on colorful slips of paper or finding little trinkets to symbolize the gift/talents (paintbrush for artistic, shoelace for knot tying, etc.).

After everyone has contributed to the jar, look at all the gifts and talents within your family and/or community.

- What are similarities? Differences?
- Are there people who have talents that they could share with you?
- Are there talents you have that you can share with others?

Logic Puzzle

Dog Agility Competition: A puzzle of Diverse Characteristics

Match the breed, name, and best event of each dog in the Complete the puzzle online to discover the answer: https://www.brainzilla.com/logic/logic-grid/agility-competition/

Field Studies

In 2020, someone from every household had to complete a census.

What is the United States Census? Why is it important? How does it relate to diversity? Who and what are a part of it?

Research the U.S. Census and see what types of questions are asked and how those questions relate to the diverse needs and realities in our country: https://2020census.gov/en/about-questions.html

What is an additional question that you think should be asked on the U.S. Census? Why do you think so?

Research Explorations

Show me the money! From the materials it is made of, to the value, and symbols on their surface, money comes in many diverse forms.

Visit: https://www.usmint.gov/learn/kids to learn more about how money is made, what it is made of, and what pictures have made their mark on various coins and bills.

After you explore, design your own coin. What value will it have? Will it be a monetary value we already use, or one not in circulation (like the \$2 bill)? Make sure to back up your design and value with thoughtful reason.

Math

Do you know the value of a dollar? Not only does the United States have different types of coins and bills, but money and its value is quite diverse around the world. In Europe, most countries use the euro and it is the second most traded type of money in the world (the U.S. dollar is the first).

Try your hand at converting money between U.S. dollars to currency around the world: https://www.mathsisfun.com/activity/currencies.html

To learn more about the euro, click this link: https://kids.kiddle.co/Euro

Grades 4-5

English Language Arts

As humans, we come from incredibly diverse backgrounds, cultures and experiences, yet there are so many ways in which we are the same, values, emotions, hopes, dreams, fears, etc.

Choose two stories, myths or folktales from different cultures to read. Compare and contrast the two stories using a double-bubble thinking map: https://www.thinkingmaps.com/why-thinking-maps-2/

Focus on the themes, topics, patterns of events, characters, story structure and other cultural elements of the stories. How are they different? How are they similar? Design a symbol to represent both the theme and culture of each story.

Social Studies

Art is as varied and diverse a subject as one can imagine. However, regardless of medium or culture, art is universal in its ability to tell a story, influence and educate.

Research the different art forms, which can include stories or songs of an ethnic group different from your own, using books or the internet. How do these art forms reflect the lifestyles, beliefs and struggles of that cultural group?

Reflect upon your culture and what art forms, stories, and songs best represent you and the narrative/story of your culture.

Compare and contrast the two. How can an understanding of cultural narratives from diverse cultures bring us closer together as a community?

Science

Fingerprint Science!

Despite the diversity of fingerprints some characteristic patterns are inherited. Though never proven it is believed everyone's fingerprints are different. You are more likely to share traits in your fingerprint patterns with family members than with others not related to you.

Using a stamp pad, marker, or ink pen, color the palm side of one of your fingers. Press it on a piece of paper. Examine the lines and curves. Try it again, but this time press your fingerprint on a balloon. Blow up the balloon and see your

fingerprint up close! Try this with other members of your family. What similarities and differences do you notice?

Mindfulness

We all have diverse gifts and talents within us; some we see within ourselves and some we might not even realize, but others see in us.

Write your name in a circle on a sheet of paper. Draw a much larger circle around it. Each person in your family or classroom will do the same. Circulate around the room, writing the gifts and talents you observe in others on the rings surrounding their names.

After everyone has contributed to each person's paper, take time to look at the gifts and talents others see in you. Are they the same as you see? Are there strengths others see in you that you didn't see in yourself? How do they relate to the diverse gifts and talents you see in others?

Logic Puzzle

Dinosaurs: Logic Grid Puzzle

Four gigantic dinosaurs lived in different areas of the world, and in different periods. Which one of those lizards was the longest? Complete the puzzle online to discover the answer:

https://www.brainzilla.com/logic/logic-grid/dinosaurs/

Field Studies

Join the Mission-Team Everyone Counts

Mission: Census, Virtual Trip to the Census Bureau

https://youtu.be/1iMpVlvF4ao

Journey behind-the-scenes at the U.S. Census Bureau through exclusive interviews with subject matter experts. On the virtual journey you will be invited on a mission to discover key details about Census Bureau programs. You can test your knowledge at the end of the program- there's an interactive challenge!

Choose to read one of the stories from "America Counts: The Story Behind the Numbers" and see how a simple question relates to a larger issue and/or possible solution. https://bit.ly/20y6QfX

What question do you think should be added to the U.S. Census? What story might it tell or solution might come from it?

Research Explorations

Our world is full of diversity. One familiar symbol that represents a country is a flag. While it's true that each flag is different, as this video shows, there are many commonalities:

https://youtu.be/uLV7TCBV_3U

After you watch the video, brainstorm a list of common patterns, symbols, and colors that you saw.

What do the colors and symbols mean? This website gives some explanation and groups similar flags together: https://www.enchantedlearning.com/geography/flags/colors.shtml

Create your own flag that just represents you, or perhaps represents your whole family, town, or school. Consider what symbols and colors would need to be included to showcase your values and diversity. Create your flag with markers and paper, or use fabric and other objects for a mixed media approach. Write a few sentences to explain the meanings behind your choices for color and symbols. Share with your classmates.

Math

There is geometry in art. Using different lines, and angles, you will create an art piece that represents diversity.

Draw at least 5 straight lines that start on an edge of the paper and go completely to a different edge. Then, connect the lines using at least 9 line segments. Be sure to have 3 perpendicular lines, and at least one pair of parallel lines.

Notice what types of angles and shapes you have created, using mostly random lines. Add color and give your art piece a title.

Grades 6-7

English Language Arts

Good writers have a lot of power. When read by others, a writer's thoughts and feelings are transferred to the reader. It almost sounds like magic. How do they do this? One tool that authors use is sentence variety. They craft sentences to express not only specific ideas but even feelings.

The dog was chasing me. I ran. I ran some more. I gasped for air. Could I escape?

The dog was chasing me and I ran and I ran some more; I gasped for air. Could I escape?

In the first line, the short, choppy sentences accentuate the gasping for air. It conveys to the reader that the narrator is gasping so much that they cannot really run away. In the second line, the choice to write a run-on helps to accentuate the running.

Experiment by writing five pairs of sentences of diverse lengths and formats. Write sentences about your interests then try to express the same idea by writing it differently.

Social Studies

West Africa is home to more than 500 indigenous languages. This linguistic diversity is greater than any other region of the world. Spoken language in traditional West Africa is prized for its role in storytelling across the generations through the art of orature. Read more about West African Languages at the link: https://bit.ly/2WPUswc

Consider how language can unite or divide a society. When modern African nations were formed after European colonialism had reshaped country boundaries, how did having citizens from different cultures and with different languages impact the new nation's ability to organize itself effectively?

Jot down your ideas in a journal. Then read this article and add new thoughts: https://bit.ly/20N2Url

Science

There are three advantages of sexual reproduction over asexual reproduction:

- it produces genetic variation in the offspring
- through variation, species can adapt to new environments
- genetic disease is less likely to affect an entire population.

When families marry within the same families, as happened with European royalty in the 19th-20th Centuries, this lack of gene diversity can cause a recessive gene to have a greater impact. Great Britain's Queen Victoria, through two of her five daughters, passed the recessive gene for hemophilia to various royal houses across the continent, including the royal families of Spain, Germany, and Russia.

Follow the link to learn more about Queen Victoria's pedigree and reflect on the impact lack of diversity has on a bloodline: https://bit.ly/3hyUelh Record your answers in your science notebook.

Mindfulness

Think about a time you have seen prejudice or discrimination against people with learning disabilities. How did it make you feel? Are disabilities always visible? Do you have a learning disability? How have you dealt with it? Do you speak up when someone is discriminated against? Would you change the way you act when you see or hear people acting with discrimination?

Create a 6-frame story strip illustrating a story of discrimination against someone with a learning disability. Make sure your story strip uses visuals as well as words to tell the story. Try to focus the story on how to fight against this type of prejudice and the discrimination that results. What will you do in the future to fight against discrimination of people with learning disabilities?

Logic Puzzle

KenKen is not quite sudoku and is not a crossword puzzle. Your goal is to fill the grid with numbers but without repeating a number within the same column or row. In a 3 by 3 KenKen uses the numbers 1-3. In a 4 by 4 KenKen uses the numbers 1-4.

For more help solving a KenKen puzzle go to the official site:

http://www.kenkenpuzzle.com/howto/solve

Now that you understand the rules try a KenKen Puzzle:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/10CMLhRQt5cfCZ-MrGxBINJ9hhFGBWnRpwYJm1un4Wpg/edit

Field Studies

Music is an important part of culture. If someone were to ask you what is American Music, what would you say? Explore this idea in this article from World Music Central, an online magazine dedicated to exploring music from around the world: https://worldmusiccentral.org/world-music-resources/musician-biographies/american-music/

After you have read the article, determine a way that you would like to explore this idea further. Some examples are researching the influence of particular cultures on a genre of music, researching the history of an American genre, and listening to examples of music from several American genres to determine how they are similar to one another. Follow through with your research and then share what you have learned with someone you know.

Research Explorations

The biodiversity of rainforests is one of the great characteristics of these regions. Pick two of the five tropical rainforests: Central American, Amazon, Congo River Basin, Madagascar, Southeast Asia to research.

- Specifically, determine how the biodiversity of each forest is similar and different.
- How does diversity help the rainforest to survive?
- How does the diversity of the rainforest benefit humans?

Create a travel brochure for one of the rainforests you researched. Use your brochure to convince a traveler interested in biodiversity to visit.

Math

The 100 Person Project imagines that our global population only has 100 people. The project's aim is to enlighten people on the racial, religious, and wealth diversity of the world. Think about the makeup of the world! Keep in mind race, religion, ethnicity, continents, gender and language. Feel free to add other categories.

Research the world's population and then use your ratio skills to determine how the numbers convert to a population of 100.

Create a presentation using either Google Slides or PowerPoint to present your information. Next research the demographics of your state, city, county, or school and create a population of 100. How does the new population compare with our global population?

Visit the link if you need help getting started: https://www.100people.org/#a

Grades 8-9

English Language Arts

One important part of becoming a well-rounded reader is to read literature from authors with a diverse range of perspectives.

Select and read a novel written by an author from Africa, Asia, or South America. Examine how the author or character narrates the text from a particular perspective. How do the author or narrator's culture and experiences influence his/ her attitude toward an event, character, idea, or concept within the text? (Hint: If this is challenging, take some time and explore the culture.) What language and rhetorical devices does the author use to advance his/her point of view or purpose?

Share what you have discovered in the format of your choice.

Social Studies

Prior to the Great Migration (1916-1970), 90% of African Americans in the U.S. lived in the South. After six million African-Americans migrated to the North and the West, only 53% remained in the South. The Great Migration not only diversified other parts of the country, but it led to different opportunities for the families that moved. Smithsonian Magazine details the impact of the Great Migration on American history. Read and annotate the article: https://bit.ly/2CxO8Tp

At the same time, African-Americans were not always welcome in new towns. Read about Sundown towns here: https://bit.ly/2D0UIS2

Create a visual display in a format of your choice that helps to portray the impact the Great Migration had on the development of America.

Science

Biodiversity literally means variety of life. The more plant species that exist, the greater variety of crops that can be grown. In some cases, however, biodiversity is essential. For example, you cannot produce

apples with only one apple tree. You must have two apple trees of different varieties for the insects to cross-pollinate.

Check out this website from the University of Minnesota Extension Agency about how to grow apples in your home garden: https://extension.umn.edu/fruit/growing-apples

Create an infographic to help others understand the importance of biodiversity using apples as an example. When you are finished, research how biodiversity is essential to other plant species, also.

Mindfulness

"The single story creates stereotypes, and the problem with stereotypes is not that they are untrue, but that they are incomplete. They make one story become the only story." -Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie.

What does this quote mean to you? To gain a better understanding of the author's meaning watch: https://bit.ly/20sYtlT

- What stereotypes did Chimamanda have of Americans?
- What stereotypes do Americans have of Africans?
- In listening to the talk, did you feel a sense of connection or identification with Adichie?
- If so, how do you think that happened?
- What do you believe people assume about you?

Tell your story. Write and record a story which would help others understand something about you that is not easily apparent.

Logic Puzzle

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For more help solving a KenKen puzzle go to the official site. http://www.kenkenpuzzle.com/howto/solve

Now that you understand the rules try a KenKen Puzzle: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1J-YabnPt0oFl26bzh90wGl0LB7julW3-ZjZsqUeFwUA/edit

Field Studies

North Carolina is unusual among states in that it has both a coastline and mountains. In 1937, the Department of State Advertising started a campaign marketing the state as the "Variety Vacationland."

In 2015, *Our State* magazine published this article discussing the Variety Vacationland campaign and the factors that contributed to North Carolina becoming such a tourist destination: https://www.ourstate.com/how-north-carolina-became-variety-vacationland/

After reading the article, create a travel blog about places in North Carolina that would be fun for students your age to visit today. Include a new campaign slogan for the NC tourism industry for your blog.

Research Explorations

Pick one aspect of culture you would like to study about a different place. You could pick sports, entertainment, food, or another topic. While researching, focus on the similarities and differences of teens in different parts of the world. What distinguishes teens in different parts of the world?

- African Studies: https://www.bu.edu/africa/outreach/teachingresources/
- Latin American Studies: http://lanic.utexas.edu/
- South and Southeastern Asian Studies: https://library.columbia.edu/libraries/global/southasia.html

Consider what misconceptions people in the United States might have about different countries and how people live there? Create a social media post to clarify these misconceptions. Be sure to include similarities and differences of the cultures.

Math

In 1963 when the Equal Pay Act was passed, the median wage for a woman was \$22,000. The median wage for a man the same year was \$37,000.

Use the interactive graph at the U.S. Department of Labor to determine the median women's wages compared to the median man's wages for each decade. Will men and women ever have the same median wage? Use math to justify your answer.

U.S. Department of Labor: https://www.dol.gov/agencies/wb/data/earnings

You can read the article to learn more about the wage gap: https://www.epi.org/publication/what-is-the-gender-pay-gap-and-is-it-real/

Grades 10-12

English Language Arts

Conflict may arise during difficult times, turning groups of people against one another. Read and listen to an excerpt from The Book of Sir Thomas More written by Shakespeare:

https://www.williamlanday.com/2017/02/28/ shakespeares-speech-on-immigrants/

- What is More trying to accomplish?
- How do the allusions, historical references, or kinds of words used place this in a certain time and location?
- Did the oral presentation have more of an effect than reading the text? Explain why.
- What parts of the text exhibit powerful or persuasive rhetoric?

Rewrite More's speech to address the immigration crisis in the 21st century. Provide details relevant to the current issues and use valid reasoning to persuade your audience.

Social Studies

Nations are protesting in solidarity despite their differences against racism, social injustices, and the attitudes that allow them to continue. Protests have spread across the world: from the small islands of Samoa, to northern tips of Sweden.

Creosote maps have continuously documented the protests: https://www.creosotemaps.com/blm2020/

If you had to take a stand against something, what would it be? Design a symbol or slogan for your advocacy. Explain what it means to you and what it represents.

- 1. How does it make you feel to see the world come together in unity?
- 2. What makes these protests different from previous ones in U.S. history?
- 3. What legal changes would you recommend to support your advocacy?

Science

Biodiversity is the variety of life on Earth. It comprises several different levels, starting with genes, then specific species, to communities and finally ecosystems.

A species biodiversity is a collection of species in one ecosystem. Subsequently, there are species that aren't native to a particular ecosystem, which happens intentionally or unintentionally by humans. The invasive species negatively affects the habitats they enter environmentally, economically, or ecologically.

Research a species that is considered invasive in your state. Create an educational outreach product such as video, presentation, or poster, to increase public awareness.

Mindfulness

"Look at other people and ask yourself if you are really seeing them or just your thoughts about them."— Jon Kabat-Zinn

Using the Mirror, Microscope, and Binoculars levels of reflection, think about yourself. When you pass a stranger on the street, are you really seeing people who they are as opposed to who we think they are?

- Mirror what you've learned about yourself passing a stranger
- Microscope what you've learned about the experience
- Binoculars what is the bigger picture as a whole

Write a reflective journal entry to include what you think Kabat-Zinn is trying to infer, your thoughts about the quote, and how the quote makes you feel?

Logic Puzzle

An Arab Sheikh tells his two sons to race their camels to a distant city to see who will inherit his fortune. The one whose camel is slower wins. After wandering aimlessly for days, the brothers ask a wise man for guidance. Upon receiving the advice, they jump on the camels and race to the city as fast as they can.

What did the wise man say to them?

Field Studies

If you could explore a custom or culture different than your own, where would you like to travel? What would you like to see and learn? What would you like to experience?

Design a travel brochure to the destination of your choice. The brochure should include:

- Name and map of your destination
- Itinerary highlighting places of interest to visit
- Historical facts about your destination
- Conversational phrases in the native language how to say hello, thank you, and goodbye
- Food and traditions
- Currency exchange used by locals

Reflect on what you've learned. How is their culture different from the American culture? What traditions intrigue you the most? What is one thing the culture has contributed to the world?

Research Explorations

College tours aid many students in making the big decision. The YouVisit website provides a virtual campus tour of over 600 colleges: https://www.youvisit.com/

Take part in this college scavenger hunt to explore different campuses. Visit a college that is:

- 1. Oldest in the U.S.
- 2. Youngest in the U.S.
- 3. Historically Black College/University (HBCU)
- 4. Major in Bagpiping
- 5. Unique mascot
- 6. Mormon College
- 7. Unusual design

Create a chart which compares at least three schools of your choice in these five areas: Areas of study, Tuition rates, Admission requirements, Campus life, Student support services.

Math

Ethnomathematics is the integration of culture and mathematics. During the Kharif cropping season in India, rice and maize are two of the main crops planted. Farmers conduct crop meetings to discuss what crop is best for the community to plant. The more farmers who attend, the better the outcome.

During a recent meeting, some farmers wanted to plant more rice than maize. Other farmers wanted to plant more maize over rice and the remaining farmers wanted to plant an equal amount of both.

If each farmer chose at least one of these crops, how many farmers attended the meeting? Assign variables and expressions to develop your equations.

Solve the problem using a Venn diagram: https://www.onlinemathlearning.com/venn-diagram-word-problems.html

Reference Guide

K-1 Logic Puzzle:

Solution: I can bring things that have double letters.

2-3 and 4-5 Logic Puzzles:

Online source of additional information and solutions:

https://www.brainzilla.com/logic/logic-grid/agility-competition/

10-12 Logic Puzzle

Solution: The wise man told them to switch camels.

http://brainden.com/logic-puzzles.htm