

6/10 - 6/19
Cultural Understanding Circle

Purposes:

- To discuss the similarities and differences between cultures.

Materials:

- Talking piece
- Centerpiece

Activity:

Welcome everyone to the space of the circle: “Welcome to our circle. We will meet in a circle on _____ (day of the week) at this time. Circles are part of our work this year to become a restorative justice school. Restorative justice helps us build relationships with one another through circles and also by focusing on repairing harm if we hurt someone. We want to become a school where students always feel safe and supported, and we think restorative justice will help us do that.”

Mindfulness moment: “Pause, take a deep breath in and out.” Pause then repeat 2 more times. No exclusion, No shaming, blaming , holding people accountable through discussion.

Keeper reviews the following:

- A Round is a pass of the talking piece around the circle.
- The Keeper poses a question and, as a participant, may answer first.
- The Keeper passes to their right.
- In the first round, participants are invited to say their name as well as respond to the question.
- Remember, it is always okay for a participant to pass.
- Say just enough
- Timer+

OPENING:

In studying other cultures,
we learn more about
ourselves and our
relationship to all things
in this world.

Eustace Conway

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ROUND: Check in

On a scale of 1 to 5: 1 being the lowest and 5 being the highest. When you are at your best , what are you known for? And Why?

[Keeper shares their # and then pass the talking piece to the right.]

Guideline Review

These are the guidelines for our circle:

- ★ Speak from your heart
- ★ Listen from your heart
- ★ Speak only when you have the talking piece
- ★ It's okay to pass.

ROUNDS

Round #1: Culture is defined as the 'way of life' of a person or community. As we live we engage in many activities that enable ourselves and the community to grow and thrive. What are the cultural activities that you can not live without?

Round #2: What does cultural understanding do for your personal life?

Round #3: Not understanding other cultures can bring about conflict. What cultural conflicts have you experienced?

Round #4: Do you feel that your school reflects your culture in class or school culture? If so, how? If not which culture is most represented and why?

Round #5: What would you like to see in your school or class to better represent your culture?

“Once you **understand**
and **appreciate** other
people’s cultural
backgrounds, then you
can also **connect** with
them more.”

CLOSING:

Thank everyone for participating in the day’s circle. The end!