

characters unite

WHAT IS CHARACTERS UNITE?

This card deck is part of USA Network's Characters Unite campaign to combat prejudice and discrimination, while promoting greater tolerance and respect. The cards feature questions that prompt players to share and discuss their experiences and perspectives to help shed stereotypes, recognize commonalities and accept differences.

For more information go to charactersunite.com



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HOW TO USE THE CARD DECK

Characters Unite Cards may be used by educators as flash cards to promote class discussion, as writing assignment prompts, or as an interactive game played in groups of 4 to 6 players. It can be part of the Characters Unite Activity Guide or used separately.

The guide and cards can also be downloaded at **charactersunite.com**





Card Suits

C Character

Share something about your background and culture.

A Assumption

Consider how you may view other people.

Perception

Think about how other people may perceive you.

S Scenario

Imagine how you might act in a specific situation.

Game Guidelines

GOAL

The player who is the first to answer one card from each category in the deck wins.

PLAYERS

Game is played in groups of 4-6 players, with a full or half deck per group.

RULES

- The player whose last name comes first alphabetically starts the game.
- Players take turns drawing cards in clockwise rotation.
- Place deck face down in a draw pile.
- Players have up to 2 minutes to answer each question. Yes or No answers are not allowed. Players should include as much detail as possible up to the time limit.
- After a card is played, the player must lay their card face up in view of the other players.



Gameplay Option #1

WHAT'S MY CHARACTER?

- Each player must play the card they draw unless they decide to "push" a card onto another player or "pass" on a card to discard it without answering. Each player may push and pass only one card per game.
- If a player receives a push card, they must either play it during their turn or use their one pass option. No player may receive more than one push card per game.
- The first person to play all four card categories wins the game.





Gameplay Option #2

CHARACTER CHALLENGE

- All players start with one card.
- The first player draws a second card and chooses one card to answer.
- The player then pushes their unused card to another player.
- With every turn, players must have two cards in their hand, either drawn from the draw pile or received from another player.
- Each player chooses a card to answer and pushes the unused card to another player.
- No player may pass a card to another player who already has two cards.
- The first person to play all four card categories wins the game.



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Imagine that someone texts or emails a mean and untrue rumor about your sibling or friend. How would you suggest he or she respond?







Imagine that someone makes an offensive remark about your friend's religion. Would you stand up for him or her? Why or why not?





Imagine you have a close friend who makes a racist remark. How would you react and why?





Imagine that you knew a false rumor about a person or group was being spread. Would you try to stop it from

spreading? How?





Imagine your friend tells you he or she is being textually harassed.* What would you do to help him or her?

> *to harass someone through text messages.







Imagine someone decides they don't want to be your friend before even getting to know you. How would you react?





Imagine your friend invites you to visit their place of worship and they practice a different religion than yours. What would you say?





S Scenario

Imagine you walk
by a group of
students physically
or verbally bullying
another student.
Would you stop
and intervene,
keep walking, or go
find help? Why?







Imagine your teacher or coach tells you that you can't do something because of your race or ethnicity.

How would you respond?





S Scenario

Imagine you're standing on a crowded bus and an elderly or disabled person gets on board and no one offers them a seat. How would you react?





Imagine that your mom or sister finds out that she receives a lower salary than a male colleague with the same job and experience. What do you think

characters welcome. US

she should do?





Imagine that you weren't born in this country and don't speak the same language as most people around you. How would that make you feel?





Imagine a friend uses the word "gay" in a derogatory manner. How would you react?





Think of a time when you made a snap decision about someone you just met and then changed your mind as you got to know the person better. What did you learn

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from the experience?





Think about someone you know who is different from you. You don't have to say the person's name. What do you admire most about that person?







Pick a well-known celebrity. What stereotypes might people have about their character? How might our assumptions be wrong or damaging?









Does your sexual orientation affect the way vou view other people who have a different orientation? If so, how?





If you could take back one mean thing you said or did to someone in the past, what would it be and why?





Have you ever realized that you have a lot in common with someone that you didn't expect to? What did you discover?





Was there ever a time that you stood up for someone who was different than vou or someone stood up for you? Describe what happened.







Have you ever met someone who helped you see past a stereotype? What did you learn from him or her?





Is there someone in your life you look up to as a role model for fighting discrimination and intolerance?
Who is it and why?







Was there ever a time you really wanted to speak your mind, but didn't think you could? Describe your experience.



Have you ever made friends with someone even though they didn't speak the same language as you? What did you learn from the experience?







Did you ever find people who were different and bring them together?
What happened?





Have you ever wanted to ask someone about his or her race or ethnicity, but were afraid or embarrassed to ask? Why or why not?









Describe a stereotype about your race, religion or gender that you would like to challenge.







A Assumption

Has anyone ever made an assumption about you just because of the way you look that wasn't true? How did it

make you feel?









Share a name you've been called – the good, the bad, or the ugly. How does that name make you feel?





Is there a stereotype about you or your family you would like to clear up? Why or why not?







Have you ever felt like a fish out of water, like you didn't belong? How did it make you feel?







Have you ever been treated differently because of your race or ethnicity? If so, share your experience.









Have you ever been treated differently because of your religion? If so, share your experience.



Has your gender ever worked to your advantage or disadvantage? How did it make you feel?







A Assumption

Have you ever been discriminated against based on something* about you rather than your merit? Please explain.

*i.e. skin color, age, gender, sexual orientation, religion, body type, etc.







Do you feel like your circle of friends is stereotyped at school? How does this make vou feel?







Have you ever altered your appearance to try to change the way people see you? How did that make you feel?





A Assumption

Do you ever have problems with a family member or friend because of something you can't control, like your personality, sexuality or gender? How do you deal with it?







Did you ever reject someone as a friend because you were scared of what other people would say? How did it make you feel?







Describe a tradition your family has, that you either like or don't like. Tell us why.







Where were you born? Where were your parents and grandparents born?





















How many friends of a different race or nationality do you have? What have you learned from each other?



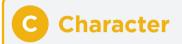




Did you ever have a friend that other people didn't want you to have? How did that make you feel?







Have you made a positive difference in your friends' lives or in your community? How?













If you could learn another language, what would you choose and why?



If you could travel to any country in the world to experience another culture, where would you go and why?







Do you consider yourself to be religious or spiritual in any way? If so, how do you express it?







If you were being interviewed by Oprah, what is the one thing you'd want the world to know about you?



