

Identity Banners

Respectful Relationships

To encourage students to explore, express, and celebrate their unique identities while fostering respect and inclusion among peers.



Learning Intentions

Students explore the ability to identify and express their personal identity.

This promotes self-awareness by encouraging students to reflect on the key aspects that make them who they are.

Students learn to respect others' identities, even when different from their own.

This helps build an inclusive mindset that embraces differences.

Students aim to understand how identity connects to inclusion.

This allows students to explore how personal experiences and perspectives influence relationships and the way we treat others.



Success Criteria

Personal Expression:

Students can clearly represent key aspects of their identity using visuals and words.

Empathy and Respect:

Students can respectfully listen to others' stories and ask thoughtful questions.

Reflection:

Students can describe how understanding identity leads to stronger, more inclusive communities.



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Objective:

To encourage students to explore, express, and celebrate their unique identities while fostering respect and inclusion among peers.

Players:

Whole class, with activities completed individually and shared in small groups.

Materials:

- A3 or butchers paper (one per student)
- Colouring materials (coloured pencils, etc.)
- Sticky notes (optional for peer comments)
- A calm and open classroom environment

Setup:

1. Each student is given a large piece of paper divided into 5 - 6 segments.
2. Segment themes can include:
 - Personal values
 - Pronouns or how they like to be addressed
 - Cultural background
 - Hobbies or passions
 - Family structure
 - Character strengths or personality traits
 - Life goals or role models

Activity:

1. Create the banner

Students decorate their banners using words, drawings, symbols, or photos that represent who they are, focussing on each segment listed above. Encourage students to express themselves in their own unique way.

2. Gallery walk

In small groups, students do a quiet "gallery tour" of each other's banners. Encourage them to:

- Ask questions politely
- Share something they connected with
- Leave a positive sticky note (optional)

3. Class reflection

Bring the whole class together to reflect on:

- What surprised or inspired them?
- What do they now understand better about their classmates?
- How can knowing each other's identities help us treat each other with kindness and respect?
- Why is it important to have great diversity in our communities?

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Reflection prompts:

- What's one part of your identity that you're proud of?
- Did you see anything in a classmate's banner that you relate to?
- Why is it important to know and respect each other's identities?

Winning the game:

There are no winners in this game. The focus is on self-discovery, mutual respect, and building an inclusive classroom culture where everyone feels seen and valued.

Additional notes:

This activity is a great way to begin a unit on respectful relationships, inclusion, or empathy. It can also be extended with digital formats or used to decorate a "Wall of Us" in the classroom for ongoing community celebration.

