Intercultural Capability: Level 5-6 activity

**How does the community demonstrate the value of cultural diversity?**

This teaching and learning activity is based on material developed with schools participating in the 2017 Intercultural Capability project. The Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority, in partnership with the International Education Division at the Department of Education and Training, conducted an action-research project with nineteen schools from the Government, Catholic and Independent sectors.

| Content description |
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| **Intercultural Capability**  Cultural Diversity  Examine and discuss the variety of ways in which people understand and appreciate differing cultural values and perspectives, and the things which promote or inhibit effective engagement with diverse cultural groups ([VCICCD012](http://victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Search?q=VCICCD012)) |
| **Achievement standard (extract) – Level 5 and 6** |
| Students identify the barriers to and means of reaching understandings within and between culturally diverse groups and the ways in which effective engagement with those groups is promoted or inhibited |

**Learning context**

These activities were developed by a metropolitan secondary school. They were delivered in a four week unit with two hour-long lessons per week. Preliminary lessons focused on:

* introducing the unit, where a class-definition of culture was drafted
* a cultural survey was undertaken by the class
* discussions on the challenges and benefits of cultural diversity.

Please note that this school selected content from Level 5 and 6 of the Intercultural Capability curriculum based on the outcomes of pre-assessment. This activity can be adapted and applied to students’ different levels of learning.

The activities were designed to be delivered sequentially.

***Activities***

*Explore and report back*

Encourage students to identify contemporary events where the value of cultural diversity is celebrated. Divide the class into four groups. Explain that each group will focus on identifying events at different levels – local, regional and national and international events. Examples of events are:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Local** | **Regional** | **National** | **International** |
| [Coburg Carnivale](http://www.moreland.vic.gov.au/events-recreation/festivals-and-major-events/coburg-carnivale/)  [Chinese new year (Melbourne)](https://whatson.melbourne.vic.gov.au/Whatson/Festivals/cny/Pages/cny.aspx) | [Melbourne International Film Festival](http://miff.com.au/)  [Womadelaide](https://www.womadelaide.com.au/) | [Because of her, we can - National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee 2018](https://www.naidoc.org.au/) | [Olympics](https://www.olympic.org/) |

Alternatively, ask groups to investigate each of these events and report back on how they demonstrate the value of cultural diversity.

*Create your own festival poster and program*

Ask students to create their own festival poster and program. You may ask students to remain in their groups to complete this task – in which case they will need to work collaboratively – or youmay get them to undertake this work independently. Explain that the students may undertake research to gather ideas.

Provide them with a checklist of items to include on their poster:

* Event name and location, including whether local, regional, national and international
* Event publicity, including a description that highlights a positive focus on cultural diversity
* Program details, for example, traditional dance, international sporting event, cultural activities, guest speakers.

*You may wish to allow additional time to complete this activity, which may be undertaken in more than one lesson.*

*Poster display and gallery-style critique*

Gather the posters and display them around the class. Include a feedback sheet with a set of prompts next to each poster. Ask students to gather in their intial groups. As a group, they move from one poster to another. Encourage them to provide written positive feedback on the posters with a focus on elements that show ways to celebrate cultural diversity. Prompts may include:

* Would you like to attend this event? Why?
* How does this event celebrate cultural values?
* What kind of experience do you think you would have at this event? What might you learn?
* Do you think people from other cultural groups would attend this event? Why/why not?

*Wrap-up discussion*

Complete this set of activities by discussing challenges to valuing cultural diversity.