

RCDC

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# RECOGNIZING DIFFERENCES

HELPING CHILDREN APPRECIATE SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES IN  
PEOPLE



## Activity 1

### Preparation

Gather a selection of leaves.

1. Have your students (children) go outside and select a leaf from the ground. (If it is not possible for your students to leave the classroom, then bring in a selection of leaves.)
2. Ask the students to list ways in which their leaves are different (color, shape, size, etc).
3. Mount the leaves on paper to create a "leaf forest." Explain that despite their differences, all the trees live together in a forest.
4. Explain that just as there are many different trees in a forest, there are many types of people in the world. Ask the students to list differences among people (physical, cultural, etc).
5. Have your students cut out pictures of people from magazines and then mount the pictures on paper to create a "people forest." Emphasize that differences are natural and that they are good because they add to the richness of the world.

*This activity can be included in a science lesson. As appropriate, instead of leaves, You can substitute fish in an ocean, flowers in a garden, minerals in a rock, etc.*

# Activity 2

1. Tell your students that although people are different in many different ways, there are also many similarities among us.
2. Ask your students questions such as, "Who has a cat?" "Who likes to play baseball?" "Who likes to eat pepperoni pizza?" For each question, have the students who answer yes stand up or move to one side of the room. Do this several times so that everyone will be part of several yes groups.
3. Ask the students how they felt when they found out other people like the same things they do. Were they surprised to learn which students shared their interests? Discuss how sharing things, such as a liking of music, can help people form friendships.

# Activity 3

## **Preparation**

Bring in a piece of recorded music.

1. Play a piece of recorded music for your students and have them list the different instruments they hear (guitar, voices, drums, violins, etc.).
2. Explain that although each instrument is different, they all belong to one orchestra and they all make an important contribution to the orchestra.
3. Ask the students to write a list of some people who are close to them and make up their community. These people can include family, teachers, babysitters, neighbors, and friends. Have the students put an asterisk next to the people who are of a different culture, race, or religion.
4. Ask the students to pick one person from that list and write how that person contributes to the student's life.

Children learn many things by imitation or observation and language is one of the first behaviors learned by Imitation. One of the most important things learned from our families is our language.

FRENCH



ESPAÑOL



ENGLISH



## Activity 4

### LEARN TO COUNT FROM ONE TO TEN IN DIFFERENT LANGUAGES

ENGLISH	SWAHILI	ESPAÑOL	JAPANESE	FRENCH	HEBREW
ONE	MOJA	UNO	ICHI	UN	ECHAD
TWO	MBILI	DOS	NI	DEUX	SHTIME
THREE	TATU	TRES	SAN	TROIS	SHALOSH
FOUR	NNE	CUATRO	SHI	QUATNE	ARBAH
FIVE	TANO	CINCO	GO	CINQ	CHAMESH
SIX	SITA	SEIS	ROKU	SIX	SHESH
SEVEN	SABA	SIETE	SHICHI	SEPT	SHEUAH
EIGHT	NANE	OCHO	HACHI	HUIT	SHMONEH
NINE	TISA	NUEVE	KU	NEUF	TESHA
TEN	KUMI	DIEZ	JU	DIS	ESER