

Culture Defined

K-5

Objective: Students will create an illustrated definition of CULTURE.

Topics & Keywords for Discussion:

Culture- the customs, arts, social institutions, and achievements of a particular nation, people, or other social group.

Symbol- a shape or sign used to represent something



Materials: Water color paper, construction paper, scissors, glue, markers & colored pencils, collage materials (magazines, printed pieces, etc)

Opening activity: Introduce the word CULTURE to students- option to play the video: “CULTURE”

<https://www.flocabulary.com/unit/culture/>

Have students describe different cultural traits! You can use the culture wheel (attached) to support their dialogue and inquiry- ask questions about the different categories of culture in each section of the wheel to get their minds thinking. While personality or skin tone might be an INDIVIDUAL trait, there are also QUALITIES of our lives that are shaped and expressed through culture: from the food we eat to the specific sports we watch or play!

Core Activity: Students are going to CREATE a work of art using the word CULTURE that also expresses different cultural traits. Have them draw out the word CULTURE on their paper, VERY BIG so it takes the entire page. Then, they will collage to express each letter: maybe the letter C will be made to represent a story or a myth, maybe U will be cut out of an image of food, etc. For younger students, you can emphasize that EACH LETTER should look different, showcasing a VARIETY of cultures: they can use different patterns for each letter, or make each letter using the colors of different nation’s flags, holiday celebrations, etc.

Reflection: As students clean up the space, HAVE THEM SHARE about their ILLUSTRATED CULTURE artwork. What qualities do they LOVE about their culture, and what qualities do they ADMIRE in the culture of other people?



The Culture Wheel

GREATER COMMUNITY

KNOWLEDGE & STORIES

LANGUAGE

TRADITIONS & RITUALS

TECHNIQUES & SKILLS

TOOLS & OBJECTS

THE ARTS

FOOD & DRINK

VALUES