

## PBIS Lesson December week 1 - Culture

### Everyone has a Culture

Have students fill out the “Everyone has a Culture-Everyone is Different” sheet. Students get into small groups and compare their responses.

#### **Suggestions for discussion:**

- Were your responses exactly alike?
- What differences did you find?
- How can you explain the differences?

Students are each given a badge to show that everyone has a culture. Ask them to draw or place something on the badge that represents their culture.

You may need two days to complete these activities.

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### Culture is Like an Iceberg

#### Materials:

Features of a culture worksheet (included)  
Drawing of an iceberg

#### Instructions:

Before beginning, remind students that culture is a complex concept, everyone has a culture and culture shapes how we see the world, ourselves and others.

Make the point that only about 1/8 of an iceberg is visible above the water. The rest is below. Culture is very similar to an iceberg. There are aspects that are visible and many more aspects that are not visible.

Look at the Features of Culture worksheet. Have students in planning room fill out the sheet on their own culture. Then, as a group, compare.

## Acceptance

Ask the students to think about and answer the following:

- How does it feel to be seen by others as different or as an outsider?
- Describe an instance when you considered someone else to be different or an outsider.
- Explain what led you to that judgment.

Share your answers.

Remember...you'll understand others better if you understand and see yourself as others see you.

## Poem on Acceptance

(The only person on earth you need to be accepted by is yourself.)  
When you get what you want in the struggle for the self,  
And the world makes you king and queen for the day,  
Just go to a mirror and look at yourself,  
And see what that person has to say!  
For it isn't your father, mother, friend or host,  
Whose judgment upon you must pass;  
The person whose verdict counts the most,  
Is the one staring from the glass.  
Some may think you are a wonderful chum,  
And call you as radiant as the sun;  
But if the person in the mirror says you're dumb,  
And you can't look him in the eye - you're done.  
He is the one to please, never mind the rest,  
For he will be with you until the end,  
And you will have passed your most difficult test  
If the person in the mirror becomes your friend.  
You may fool the whole world along the years,  
And get pats on your back as the ages you pass,  
But your final reward will be pain and tears,  
If you've cheated the person in the glass.

**Once you have read this poem, discuss with your students what benefits come to you when you “like the person looking back at you in the mirror.”**