

## Lesson Plan – Are we more alike?

**Purpose :** With our range of world views, we can always find things we agree on. As we learn more about ourselves, we'll see how much we're alike, and also how our differences make us unique.

**Equipment needed:** Pencil, paper, computer, projector, pre-learning survey, 4 balls (tennis ball/paper), ball of yarn.

**Lesson timings (50 minutes):** The timings are just a guide. The lesson can be delivered as a whole, in sections, or if there is a rich discussion in one section, take the time and allow that to develop.

Pre-Work:		
Teachers: Decide whether to print off the <a href="#">pre-learning survey</a> , use it digitally and whether you will keep a record. Bring 4 balls to the class for the warm up and a large ball of yarn for the main activity		
Lesson structure	Lesson Content	Resources / Comments
Class Environment 5C Slide	Share the 5C's of the CfL classroom to create a respectful, safe atmosphere and to build trust with each other.  Together we are growing a creative, critical, caring, collaborative environment where positive, supportive communication is developed through listening, sharing and building on ideas.	Remind learners how a classroom that explores CfL topics needs to look, feel and sound.
Check-In Individual (10 mins)  My two words	This activity provides a couple of minutes of space in the day to support students to check in with themselves.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Close their eyes if they wish</li> <li>● Connect with how they feel</li> <li>● Choose 2 words to describe their feelings</li> </ul>	Students may choose not to share their 2 words, there is no pressure to do so.  Students may find check-in uncomfortable initially, they take practice.
Warm-Up Groups of 8 (10 mins)  Common ground	Students are going to start a connecting conversation.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● One person will hold a ball and share a story or something they have done recently.</li> <li>● They will pass to another student who has another story that may be linked (however loosely)</li> <li>● Continue sharing stories and encourage students to observe how they evolve.</li> </ul>	The stories can be loosely connected E.g. Last week I made a birthday cake, it contained fruit. They pass to a student that says 'speaking of fruit, last week I ...'
Main Activity Whole Group (20 mins)  Threading our Community	This whole group activity will demonstrate how we are connected.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The teacher starts by sharing something about themselves, it maybe something light such as ' I have two siblings, I am the middle child'</li> <li>● Holding the end of the yarn, they throw the ball to someone who wants to share a connection E.g. I have 2 siblings and I am the eldest.</li> </ul>	Once we have gone around the room we can observe how we are all connected through a web of similar circumstances and experiences.  Cutting the yarn enables students to take their connecting piece home

		with them. Every student in the class takes care of their connecting yarn.
Reflection Activity Arrangement (10 mins)  Feeling Connected	This is an opportunity to reflect on how these activities made us feel. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How does it feel to see our similarities visually?</li> <li>• Discuss how important these similarities are, that they unite us.</li> <li>• Discuss how enriching our differences are.</li> </ul>	
Check-out	Students can observe the learning cycle experience and decide what they want to take away from the lesson that they would like to keep or remember.	

\*Most CfL activities work best when the teachers join the students and do the activity with them.