

Finding Similarities

KINDNESS BEYOND THE CLASSROOM™
SMALL GROUP • OPTION 1 • INCLUSIVENESS

Lesson Timeframe

25-30 mins

Materials

- ❑ 5-10 small items for each group (anything from your program will work)
- ❑ Inclusiveness poster (optional)



Share

Define inclusiveness: **INCLUSIVENESS IS INCLUDING OTHERS, INVITING THEM IN, AND WELCOMING THEM WITH OPEN ARMS.** (Show the Inclusiveness poster if desired.) Discuss that inclusiveness is a long word that means we include others! Everyone deserves to be included. We can always find similarities with others; we just might have to try a little harder if it's not obvious at first. When you first meet someone, what questions could you ask them to see if you have similarities (like games you both enjoy playing or food you both like to eat)?

- Invite 3-5 volunteers to share their answer.



Inspire

Discuss the importance of practicing inclusiveness with others focusing on similarities rather than differences. When we focus on what is the same about us, we are helping the other person to feel included. This might be a game we enjoy, skills we have, or even subjects in school we prefer. Let's work in our small groups to focus on similarities instead of differences.



Empower

Divide your group into small groups based on lower and upper grades (PK-2 and 3-5). Give each group 5-10 random objects from your program. Any objects will do. Each group must find at least 1 similarity that all the objects have in common. If time allows, encourage the groups to go back and find 2-3 additional similarities with the objects. The goal is to focus on what is similar, even if the group seems completely different.



Reflect

Guide a discussion around **SIMILARITIES** and **INCLUSIVENESS**.

- What is **INCLUSIVENESS**?
- How can we find similarities with people that seem very different at first?
- How does it make you feel when you discover something new you have in common with one of your friends?

