



EMBRACING OUR DIFFERENCES

Bright Future (30-45 min.)

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Standards / SEL Connections:

Standard: LAFS.1-12.3.7 (Integration of Knowledge & Ideas) **SEL Component:** Self-Awareness

Essential Question:

What makes someone unique?

Learning Intention:

We are learning about what makes people unique and why it's important to be different. We are learning to look, think, and talk about art in order to discover messages artists communicate through their artwork.

Resources / Materials Needed:

- EOD Bright Future PowerPoint Slides
- Materials to decorate/make sunglasses
- Printable Sunglasses Worksheet (see pages 3 & 4)

Before Instruction:

- Preview slides
- Print out Sunglasses Templates for students
- Open song link for activity: [Future's So Bright I Gotta Wear Shades](#)

Direct Instruction:

Slide 1: None

Slide 2 (Read the quote and use these questions):

“A world with no differences would be like a library with copies of the same book.”

Quote by: Kelly Z., 10th Grade, Pine View School, Osprey Florida

Could you imagine walking into a library like this?

1. How would you feel?
2. What would you miss?



Slide 3 (Definition Discussion):

Read aloud the WORDS TO THINK ABOUT and definition:

- Diversity- the state of being diverse; variety.

Question to answer:

3. What things in your life are much better with diversity?
4. What makes you different and unique?

Have students share answers and praise them for their bravery.

Slide 4 (Observing and Discussing Artwork):

Words to think about...

5. How does the artist show *Diversity* in this artwork?

[CLICK](#) on the artwork to Listen to the artist Michael O’Connell, of Clearwater, Florida discuss *Birds of a Feather*.

Slide 5 (Observing and Discussing Artwork):

Words to think about...

6. How does the artist show *Diversity* in this artwork?

[CLICK](#) on the artwork to Listen to the artist Brooks Tracey, of Sarasota Florida, discuss *Udderly Unique*.

Slide 6 (Compare and Contrast Artwork):

7. How are *Birds of a Feather* and *Udderly Unique* the same?
8. How are *Birds of a Feather* and *Udderly Unique* different?

Slide 7 (Read Aloud the Quote and Directions):

“Your future is so bright you’ve got to wear shades”

These two cool characters have embraced their identity and are celebrating diversity.

Activity: Let’s Make Shades!

- First, think of all the amazing things that make you, AWESOME!
- Then, write and draw these things on your shades!
- Have fun designing your own shades! Cut, assemble (with glue, or tape), and share a picture in your shades with pride!

Website for instructions to making glasses: [Click here](#).

Listen to “Your Future is so Bright You’ve got to Wear Shades”: [Click here](#).



Extensions:

- Celebrate how amazing your students are by making a day of it.

“Futures so bright you’ve got to wear shades day”: students wear real sunglasses at school and must respond with why they need sunglasses, when asked.

Example “My future is so bright because I am a good friend, I am funny, and smart. That is why I need my sunglasses today.”

- Continue the fun with a writing assignment written in sunglasses!

My future is so bright I have got to wear shades because...

SEL Framework: [click here](#)



