



Reading circle on diversity

Basic information

This LES has been adapted from an activity developed by the Coalition des familles LGBT, it also includes activities from teachngsexualhealth.ca and the Genderbread Person by Sam Killermann.

Target audience	Grade 8
Total length	3 x 75 minutes + an extra 20 minutes if needed
Purpose	In this lesson students will learn about diversity through short stories and activities, and will reflect on the role they can play in becoming more accepting of diversity.
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exploring the broadness of sexuality, and understand how it shapes romantic relationships• Create an environment in which students would be comfortable to express themselves regarding sexual

Learning objectives

- Understand and distinguish between sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender expression and romantic attraction.
- Enable students to take part in the democratic life of the class or the school and develop an attitude of openness to the world and respect for diversity
- Demonstrate the ability to reason critically and recognize what are the factors that encourage people to be themselves

Sexuality education content

Emotionnal and romantic life

- *Comprehensive View of Sexuality:*
 - Construction of a vision and personal choices: wishes, needs, limits and the ability to consider those of others, whether or not to follow various gender stereotypes and social norms, strategies for finding information and help.
- *Become aware of the challenges involved in first dating relationship:*
 - Nature and intensity of feelings of friendship, love and attraction
 - Issues involved in sharing your feelings: requited/ unrequited, fear of rejection
 - Approaching the other person: appropriate and inappropriate ways of seeking attention and approaching the other person

Identity, Gender Stereotypes and Roles, and Social Norms

- *Recognize the role of puberty in the consolidation of your gender identity:*
 - Events at the beginning of adolescence: physical and psychological transformations of puberty, evolution of relations with peers, romantic and sexual awakening
 - Exploration of new sexual values and norms, some of which reflect stereotypes (peers, social environment, media)
 - Influence on your gender identity

Ethics and religious culture

- *Reflects on ethical questions*
 - Analyzes a situation from an ethical point of view
 - Evaluates options or possible actions with respect to community life
- *Citizenship and community life*
 - Promotion of the rules of social conduct and democratic institutions
 - Participation, cooperation and solidarity

Lesson plan

Lesson	Developement	Format	Material	Duration
1. Reading Circle on diversity	Introduce the activity	Whole class	Getting prepared document (Students) Powerpoint, Slide 1,2 and 3 (Teacher)	5 minutes
	Propose various representations of diversity.	In pairs, students answer question A on the page entitled Diversity and Novels. Students justify their responses orally.	Getting prepared document (Students)	15 minutes
	Help students define what could diversity look like.	In pairs, students decide where the expressions go on the continuum between feminine and masculine. They justify their responses orally.	Expressions and stereotypes - to cut and divise to pairs of students Feminine Masculine document - projected	15 minutes
	Draw out different notions of diversity and the importance novels have in providing windows into other worlds.	Students then answer questions B and C (see the getting prepared document)	Getting prepared document (Students)	10 minutes
	Introduce reading circles an how			
Note: one expression by pair of students or more, depending on the group and the remaining time				

<p>it works. The teacher distributes the reading journal, explains each of the roles all students will be asked to play.</p> <p>Introduce ground rules</p>		Students follow along in the reading journal.	Reading journal (Students) Powerpoint, slide 5 (Teacher)	5 minutes
	Choose short stories	Students list 3 stories in order of choice. The teacher creates teams of five students and assigns a first role to each team member.	Powerpoint, slide 6 (Teacher)	10 minutes
	Present the Sexuality Wheel: 1. Internal and external components of sexuality 2. Quality of an healthy sexuality	Whole class discussion	Document The Sexuality Wheel (Students) Powerpoint, slide 4 (Teacher) Wifi connexion_ Sexuality Wheel	10 minutes
	Reading circle - Beginning to ...	Students read on their own and make notes in their reading journal according to the role they have been asked to play.	Powerpoint, slide 5 (projected) Reading Journal (Students) Observation grid (Teacher)	20 minutes
	Reading circle - 10 pages	Students read on their own and make notes in their reading	Powerpoint, slide 5 (projected)	

Note:

You could also choose to present the [Genderbread Person](#). The goal is to introduce terms and definitions regarding sexual diversity.



2. Reading circle	To repeat as often as needed	journal according to the role they have been asked to play.	Reading Journal (Students) Observation grid (Teacher)	20 minutes
3. Reading circle	Reading circle - ... to the end	Students get together with their team members, share their notes, discuss, and jot down notes following the discussion.	Powerpoint, slide 5 (projected) Reading Journal (Students) Observation grid (Teacher)	20 minutes
	Creation of a poster	Students get together in teams and share tasks.	Reading journal Color pens Posters (Students) Observation Grid (Teacher)	55 minutes
4. Oral presentations	Finalisation of a poster	Students get together in teams and share tasks.	Reading journal Color pens Posters (Students) Observation Grid (Teacher)	20 minutes
		Each team presents its poster. The remainder of the class listen to the presentations and take notes.	Getting prepared document (Students) Powerpoint – Ground Rules (slide 5) (Teacher)	50 minutes
	Evaluation	Finally, they answer the last question in the getting prepared document.	Getting prepared document (Students)	5 minutes

Background Information

To make sure you have all the information you need to facilitate these conversations, here are some resources that can help you get comfortable with subjects you might know less about:

[Breaking through the Binary - by Sam Killermann \(genderbread.org\)](https://genderbread.org/)

[Definitions of Concepts Central to the Understanding of Social Justice \(familleslgbt.org\)](https://familleslgbt.org/)



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