

Living Museum

Adapted from the IDRA Valued Youth Partnership Tutor Workbook



Subject

All



Grade Level

Elementary



Time

45 minutes



Objectives

Reflect on own values and beliefs and share them with the class.

Get to know each other.



Activities

Step 1: Tell students that their homework assignment is to decide on three objects that they can bring to the next class that represent people, things, values, beliefs or traditions that are important to them. For example, a student might bring a picture of his family because his relationships with family members are very important to him. Another student may bring a basketball because playing sports and staying in shape is important to her.

Step 2: On the day that the objects are brought to class, have each student share his or her objects and tell why he or she brought each one. As each student finishes sharing, have him or her place the objects on a table that will become the class “Living Museum” display for the day.

Step 3: Allow students to take their objects home at the end of the day.



Discussion

Discuss the following questions.

- What kinds of things did you learn about other student’s values and beliefs?
- Was there something that was of importance to many people in the class?
- Did you learn or re-affirm something about your own values and beliefs?



Suggestions

Students always enjoy learning more about their teachers. Consider participating in this activity. If students forget to bring items from home, suggest that they use items that they may be carrying with them or have in their wallet or purse (i.e., medallions, pictures). Have students share their highest values or ideas, regardless of whether they brought items or not.



Materials

Student worksheet on Page 2.

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Instructions:

Bring three objects to the next class that represents people, things, beliefs, values or traditions that are important to you. For example, you could bring a picture of your family to represent that family relationships are important to you or you might bring a basketball to represent that playing sports and staying in school is important to you. Whatever you bring should be important to you.

If you are bringing items from home, be sure you have your guardian's permission. You will be able to take them back with you immediately following the class.

Use the space below to list what's important to you and what object you could bring to represent each of these.

Now number these in order of importance (1-6). If possible, bring the objects for your numbers 1, 2 and 3.

**People, things, beliefs,
values and traditions
that are important to me.**

**Objects that represent the
things important to me.**
