

Practice/ Activity

CIVIC - Perspective taking

For this perspective taking activity, students will work in pairs facing each other. The first student (student A) says, “Tell me 3 things you see behind me” and the second student (student B) responds by listing 3 objects.

Then have the students change roles and repeat the question so they both have an opportunity to ask and share their observations. They will most likely respond with different objects because their perspectives are different.

Lastly, students change seats. Once seated in each other’s chairs, they can begin to see the room from the other person’s perspective. As an extension, consider having students draw the objects as their partner describes what they see from their perspective.

Bring students together to discuss what they learned from the activity.
What was it like for them to be in the same room but not see the same things?
Does it make someone wrong if they see things differently than you?

Brainstorm other times in the school day when students may not see things the same way: at recess, lunchtime, learning times. When we begin to understand everyone sees things from their own perspective, we can begin to build inclusive communities with empathic citizens.