**DRAW AND RESPOND**

We HIGHLY recommend going over the eBook with your students first. Allow them to ASK questions and explore how they are feeling about what they have learned. In small group or whole group give them any pages you want them to respond to. Have students track each word with their finger as you read aloud. Ask them to look at the pictures and discuss their wonderings and thoughts. Allow them to respond to the words and picture with their own drawings and any writing they may want to add. Discuss what they drew/wrote and ask them to explain their thoughts.

At the bottom of each page there are some symbols included for students to practice annotating the text!

XOXO,

LaNesha and Naomi
Culture is made up of many different things. Food, language, clothing, beliefs, arts, and religion can all be a part of a person’s culture. Cultural appropriation is when the elements from a minority culture are taken and used by the dominant culture without permission or knowledge about the culture.

What are your thoughts about cultural appropriation? Do you think it’s good or bad? Why?
Many Americans celebrate a holiday called Halloween. People from many cultures have expressed that their culture is NOT a costume. It can be seen as disrespectful to dress up as a black, Asian, Muslim, indigenous person, or any other culture. Dia de los Muertos is an important time for some Mexican people. Some people have used parts of this cultural tradition as a Halloween costume.

Dia de los Muertos is sometimes used as a Halloween costume. What are your thoughts about this?

Use these symbols to show how you connect to the text. ★ This is important to know.  I don’t understand this.  ❌ I really like this part.  😞 I did not like this part.
CULTURAL APPROPRIATION

WHAT IS CULTURAL APPROPRIATION?

When people only take parts of a culture and use it in any way they want to, it can feel hurtful or disrespectful to the group the parts belong to. It also leads to people being stereotyped.

Some people take important items from different cultures and use them for decoration. It can take away from the significance of the item.

How do you think it would feel if someone took something from your culture and used it in a disrespectful way?

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Use these symbols to show how you connect to the text.

🌟 This is important to know.
🌟 I really like this part.
🌟 I did not like this part.
🌟 I don’t understand this.
In some indigenous cultures, there is an item called a dream catcher from the Ojibwe tribe. It is a net that is woven on a hoop. Sacred, or holy, feathers and beads can be added to a dream catcher. They are traditionally hung over babies’ cribs for protection. Some people, who are not indigenous, use dream catchers for decorations or as jewelry. This can be seen as cultural appropriation.

What are your thoughts about using dream catchers for decoration or jewelry?

Use these symbols to show how you connect to the text.

🌟 This is important to know.
❓ I don’t understand this.
❤️ I really like this part.
😞 I did not like this part.
Henna, as seen in the photo below, is traditionally used in Muslim and Hindu cultures for women getting married. It has other meanings to these cultures, too. When people that are not a part of the culture use Henna just for fun, it can be seen as cultural appropriation.

What are your thoughts about using Henna just for fun?

Use these symbols to show how you connect to the text.

⭐ This is important to know.
🌟 I really like this part.
🤔 I don’t understand this.
😞 I did not like this part.
Hair can be appropriated, too! Black culture is sometimes appropriated this way. Some black people have said that they have been fired or treated badly for their hairstyles. People who are not a part of the culture have worn the same hairstyles are not fired and aren’t treated badly, they were sometimes treated better.

Why do you think black people are sometimes treated unfairly for their hairstyles, but others aren’t?

Use these symbols to show how you connect to the text. ⭐ This is important to know. ❎ I don’t understand this. ❤️ I really like this part. 😞 I did not like this part.
There are many aspects of traditional Native American culture that are taken by the dominant culture. They use tipis, or teepees, to decorate their homes and classrooms. The faces of indigenous people are used as mascots for sports teams and their words, like “tribe” or “spirit animal”, are taken and used without permission or regard for the culture.

Why do you think people appropriate cultures?

Use these symbols to show how you connect to the text.

🌟 This is important to know.  🥰 I really like this part.
🤔 I don’t understand this.  😞 I did not like this part.
Is it okay to like and appreciate other cultures? Yes! How can you show your appreciation? You can LEARN about other cultures. Find out more than just the stereotypes and share that knowledge with others. Putting chopsticks in your hair to celebrate Asian culture can be seen as a stereotype. Some Asian people eat with chopsticks, but they do not wear them.

How can you show your appreciation for a different culture without stereotyping it?

Use these symbols to show how you connect to the text. 🌟 This is important to know. 💕 I really like this part. 🤨 I don’t understand this. 😞 I did not like this part.
If you see a friend or loved one appropriating a culture, you can talk to them about how people from that culture might feel. You can teach them what cultural appropriation is. Dia de los Muertos is not Halloween. It’s a special day to remember people who have died. This is a part of a culture. It is not a costume.

What would you do if you saw a friend appropriating a culture? Why?
Support the people from the culture you want to appreciate. If you like African jewelry or clothing, think about buying it from an African person. Talk to people from a different cultural groups and learn from them. Try not to assume you know about a group from what you've heard or seen in movies. Try to find out what's important in their culture and how you can be respectful.

How can you appreciate different cultures? Is this important to do? Why or why not?

Use these symbols to show how you connect to the text.

🌟 This is important to know.
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</table>
LANESHA TABB is currently a kindergarten teacher in Indiana. She has been an elementary school teacher since 2006. The idea for a social studies curriculum that creates compassionate, informed, and empathetic citizens came to her as she began to process events occurring in the world around her, and she brainstormed ways to make the future a better place for her own children and students. Empowering students to be thinkers and have meaningful conversations is a huge part of her teaching philosophy.

“No one cares how much you know until they know how much you care” - Theodore Roosevelt

NAOMI O’BRIEN is currently a K-5 gifted and talented teacher in Colorado. She has been teaching elementary school since 2010. When LaNesha approached her with the idea to create a social studies curriculum that would reach beyond the classroom and teach students things about our world that would inspire them to be activists, philanthropists, and advocates for those that need it, she was immediately on board. It is Naomi’s dream for her son and students to grow up in a world where people are truly seen for who they are and everyone is finally respected as equals.
Thank you for your Download

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