



### 2-3-3 Quick Guide to Breakout Activity Options for Lesson on *Importance of Representation*

**Reading Aloud activity:** We recommend the following books that embody the themes of this lesson plan. After reading each book aloud, ask the children how it relates to the importance of representation in shows, movies, and books. Children may draw pictures of the story as they listen or afterwards.

- [The World Needs More Purple People by Kristen Bell and Benjamin Hart](#)
- [I Am Every Good Thing by Derrick Barnes](#)
- [Pink Is for Boys by Robb Pearlman](#)

**Physical activity:** Engage in activities that show how we all feel similar emotions, despite our differences, even if we don't share the same skin color or gender or cultural background.

1. Emotional Charades: With the children's help, compile a list of emotions (both positive and negative). One child will select an emotion from the list to act out, while the other children try to identify the emotion. Continue until all the emotions have been acted out.
2. Builders and Destroyers: Sort the children into "builders" and "destroyers" to represent heroes and villains. Builders are the heroes who will stack cones/frisbees/blocks. Destroyers are the villains who will topple the stacks. Switch groups so each child has an opportunity to do both. Ask children how it felt to be in each group.
3. Different Movements: Set out cones and arrange kids into teams. Each team has to come up with a different type of movement (i.e. skipping, crawling, jumping) for each child to get to the cone and back. No movement can be used twice on the same team.

**Drama/Theater activity:** Invite kids to form groups and create a skit about this week's theme, which is *Importance of Representation*. Below are prompts:

- "You and your friends are creating a new team of superheroes, like *The Avengers*, or the *Jedis*, or the *Justice League*. Work together to create as many different characters as possible, paying attention to include heroes from different races, genders, cultures, religions, etc. Be sure to give each character a superhero name." Allow the groups of kids to introduce their diverse superhero teams to each other.
- "You are a group of explorers looking for a treasure. You come across a couple kids who are lost in the woods, and they want to tell you what happened to them, but they speak a different language than you. How will you communicate with each other? How will you help each other despite the language barrier?"

**Visual Art activity:** Each child will make sock puppet characters that represent a variety of races, genders, cultures and ethnicities.

- Provide a variety of socks in shades of the following colors: black, brown, tan, and white. Kids can bring in socks from home in a variety of the same shades to represent different skin colors. Kids can also use markers in skin tone shades to add pigment to white socks.
  - Encourage kids to make at least one puppet similar to themselves and one that is different. Provide craft glue, yarn, string and optional items such as pipe cleaners, googly eyes, buttons, and bits of fabric for hair, clothing, facial features, etc.
  - Time permitting, kids can create a puppet show with their puppets.