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## What Continent Do You Think They Are From: Confronting & Challenging Internalized Stereotypes

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## Welcome!

Take a moment to meet the folks next to you.

Things you might say:

- Your name
- Your organizational affiliation
- What you're looking for from this session

## Road Map

- Introduction
- Activity: *What Continent Do You Think They Are From?*
- Other activities: Ideas for equity work
- Questions? Comments? Thoughts?
- Feedback form

## Some background

- My classroom and school- 3rd grade, D.C., Independent
- Who we are
- Responsive Classroom/active learning
- Who else is here?

## Activity: What Continent Do You Think They Are From?

- You will need: Crayons, handout
- Listen to the description of the person and draw them! Write down what continent you think they are from.
- You will have 1 minute to draw and write down the continent you think that person is from.
- Then, listen for the next description.
- \*If you need the written descriptions of what I am reading aloud, they are on the back of your drawing page. If you do not need them, don't look!

## REVEALS!

### #1: Malala Yousafzai - Pakistan (South Asia)



This person is 20 years old. They are currently in college. They work hard to make sure everyone gets to go to school. They won an important prize for their work fighting for all children to have an education.

## Reveals!

### #2: Dr. Wangari Maathai - Kenya (East Africa)



This person was educated at three different universities. They were a biologist and worked hard to protect the environment. This person won the Nobel Peace Prize for an environmental movement started in their country. They also were elected to be part of their country's government.

## Reveals!

### #3: Sadiq Khan - England (Western Europe)



This person is a politician. They are the mayor of a big city. They practice Islam and identify as Muslim, so they fast for Ramadan and go to a mosque. They are also a lawyer.

## Reveals!

### #4: Caty Freeman - Australia



This person is a retired world class sprinter. They hold 7 gold medals from different world competitions. They started a foundation to support children.

## Reveals!

### #5: Michelle Bachelet - Chile (South America)



This person speaks 5 languages. They are a doctor, and worked for the government of their country before becoming the president. They also had an important role at the UN (United Nations).

## Reflect

- Star one of your images that is making you think.
- Why did you visualize that person that way?
- What continents came to mind for which descriptions?
- What are you wondering?
- Turn and Talk: “I’m surprised by...”

## Summary of our students’ reflections

- Made internalized stereotypes (racism, sexism, biases) real and tangible for them.
- Challenged students to confront/accept bias in themselves..
- They started to ask: ***Why do we have these biases? Where are we getting these impressions from?***
- ***Why do we only learn about people from North America?***

## Where Do We Go From Here?

- How does this activity relate to the inclusion (or lack thereof) of API voices, identities, histories, experiences, literature, and people of influence in school curricula?
- Reflect & SHARE: similar activities, action & advocacy, ideas, hopes...

## Social Studies

**Geography:** we are not the center of the world! (Also, WHO is the majority? Why do we only learn about white people/ North Americans?)

Biographies: learning about other's stories - "They're just like us!"

**Simulations:** Sinking Ship, Guess Your Value, Pom Pom, Distribution of Wealth

## Other activities: Investigations

### Holidays

Holiday investigations- Columbus Day, Halloween!

Critical non-fiction reading- (Girl Scouts/Barbie)

Children's rights on Human Rights Day

Parents about favorite activists (MLK Day investigation)

## Other activities: Resources

### Favorite resources of the year:

*Newsela.com*

### Valuable reflective routines:

Silent conversations

Starting difficult conversations with a picture/quote with empty space for them to fill in: *"I think... I wonder..."*

Journaling

*"I used to think... but now I'm thinking.."*

Learning from photographs



## Questions? Thank You!

- Be in touch!

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