

CREATIVE EXPRESSION PROJECT IDEAS

The Ripple Effect

ACTIVITY: Finding Common Ground

Instructions:

Everyone in the class writes down on a piece of paper a divisive social issue. These can be specific issues (pro-life/pro-choice), broader engagements with difference (race or class relations), or even silly things (NY vs. Chicago-style pizza). When a paper is drawn from the pile, the class will divide into groups according to their opinions, attitudes, or identifications.

Then the class plays a game—kind of like “Red Rover”—in which they look for common ground across these divides and invite members of different groups that share this common ground to “come on over.” (Ex: The class divides into Democrats, Republicans, and Independents. Then, students take turns inviting people from other groups to join them based on unrelated interests—their favorite soft drink, movie genre, or something else. The game continues until some of the divides between the initial groups are bridged and people begin bonding over their shared interests/attitudes).

#self-reflection #listening #observation #movement

***This activity aligns with the following [RI Social Studies Anchor Standards](#):**

CG.P.4: Argue how power can be distributed and used to create a more equitable society for communities and individuals based on their intersectional identities and lived experiences.

CG.RR.3: Analyze how individuals and communities have been included or excluded from the political process based on their intersectional identities and lived experiences and the impact these actions have had on their rights, responsibilities, and the functioning of a democratic society.

PROJECT: Create Targeted Propaganda

Instructions:

Create a 1-3 minute documentary profiling a member of your community who is making efforts to bridge divides that exist in society. Subjects might include educators, volunteers, activists, artists, policymakers, or professionals. Documentaries should include interviews with the subject about their efforts as well as footage of them working to build trust and respect between members of their community.

Discuss the intentions behind your documentary, the creative decisions you made, and how the film’s subject models how to promote trust and respect within communities in a 300 word artist statement.