

# Paper Plate Activity on Diversity

This activity aims to get at differences and similarities among people and that we all have our own strengths and challenges.

## Part 1: Introducing the activity

**Step 1: Begin by asking 4 questions, 2 light, 2 serious. See example questions below.**

- What is something that makes you laugh?
- What is your favorite food to eat at home?
- What is something that scares you?
- What is something you are proud of yourself for?

**Step 2: Lead a discussion about differences among people.**

Questions to facilitate the discussion:

- What is “normal?”
- Does “normal” really exist?
- Raise your hand if you’ve ever felt pressure to be like everybody else.
- What are some ways that people can be different from each other?
- If a difference exists between one person and another, does that mean they are better or worse than person?

## Part 2: Plates

1. **Hand out plates:** Each group member will answer 4 questions that are asked. The responses, either by writing or drawing, should be put on to the paper plates.
2. **Make a circle:** Attach paper plates around the edge of a large sheet of poster paper.
3. **Making connections:** Go around the circle and have each person share their responses. Note any differences or similarities seen among the different participants. If there are similarities, draw a line connecting those people’s plates. You can also make it so that everyone who agrees with a person’s response draws a line connecting their plate to the person’s – this will generate more lines!

## Part 3: Analyzing the results and seeing the Big Picture

Lead a discussion on what the takeaway is from this activity.

**Questions to ask:**

- What do you notice about what we’ve made?
- Are there a lot of differences? Similarities?
- Can people be both similar and different from one another?
- What is diversity?