



Black Lives Matter at School Classroom Resources and Instructional Strategies

**(compiled from blacklivesmatteratschool.com and
tolerance.org)**



(Image from blacklivesmatteratschool.com)

Instructional Ideas

Black Lives Matter at School Guiding Principle	Grade Level	Description
Restorative Justice	Elementary	In this lesson , students will brainstorm about the types of judgments people might make without getting to know someone. Then, they will reflect on the difference between what others might assume about them and how they truly are on the inside.
	Middle and High	In this lesson , students brainstorm definitions of justice and compare and contrast the ideas of justice held in Western and Traditional societies.
Globalism	Elementary	Who Is an Immigrant? is a lesson that enables students to explore how immigration influences identity. Within this lesson, students will write pen-pal letters to a character in “Julia Moves to the United States” and create cereal-box suitcases containing items that represent who they are.
	Middle and High	This resource provides information on the International Decade for People of African Descent. Around 200 million people in the Americas identify themselves as being of African descent. Many millions more live in other parts of the world, outside of the African continent. Use this resource to engage students in conversations about the spread of people from Africa around the world.
Collective Value	Elementary	The Pieces of Me lesson challenges students to design a puzzle that represents parts of their identity. Through this activity students will also be able to identify similarities with classmates and the collective value of the diversity within the group.
	Middle and High	<p>This guide provides considerations to help us think more deeply about the experiences of LGBT students of color and their needs. Suggested conversations to have include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Talking about anti-LGBT bias, racism and other forms of oppression with students in your school; asking open ended questions in the classroom, allowing students to share their thoughts and personalize their feelings and experiences. ● Developing discussion groups with other staff where you

		can talk about and work through questions of diversity, challenges regarding bias, and strategies for engagement.
Black Families/ Intergenerational	Elementary	Understanding My Family's History encourages students to research their family history by interviewing their parents and using this information along with visual props to tell their story to classmates.
	Middle and High	Students can listen to (and read the transcript of) this NPR interview with Dr. Khalil Gibran Muhammad of the New York Public Library about the parallels between the civil rights movement and the current Black Lives Matter protests. After listening, students can discuss the following questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. According to Dr. Muhammad what are some of the similarities and differences between the Civil Rights Movement and Black Lives Matter? 2. How do you think that the challenges for Black Lives Matter compare to the challenges faced by Dr. King and those involved in the Civil Rights Movement? 3. Should young people involved in BLM learn from and work with older generations? Why or why not?
Unapologetically Black	Elementary	This document contains five days of activity ideas related to the various Black Lives Matter at School Themes. Teachers might consider having students create a gallery of black youth activists from different points in history with pictures and a small summary of the cause they were fighting for and the action they took. Teachers can also have students complete a guided gallery walk with reflection prompts.
	Middle and High	This lesson focuses on questions of identity as students read and analyze Angelou's inspirational poem "Still I Rise" and apply its message to their own lives. Students learn how Maya Angelou overcame hardship and discrimination to find her own voice, celebrate her racial identity, and influence others to believe in themselves and use their voices for positive change.