

1<sup>st</sup> Grade:

Goal 1, Standard 2

To use English to communicate in social settings: Students will interact in, through, and with spoken and written English for personal expression and enjoyment

Descriptors: describing, reading about or participating in a favorite activity; sharing social and cultural traditions and values; participating in popular culture

Total Time:  
46 mins

### **Getting to Know Me- Beginning of the School Year**

By Jessica Harmon

Supplies:

- large world map
- push pins
- name card for each student
- Kissinger's *All the Colors We Are*
- large paper for brainstorming

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| 15 mins | 1. Gather together and post a large world map where the entire class can see it <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- ask each student to come up and say what country they are from (know ahead of time where the students are from, in case they are unable to say it or remember it)</li><li>- show the student and the class where they are from, and put a thumb tack to mark the country (could tack a name card also if desired)</li></ul> |
| 1 min   | 2. After everyone has put their home on the map, show where they currently are <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- After class, using colored string, connect the home countries to the location in the US</li></ul>  |
| 18 mins | 3. Read Katie Kissinger's <i>All the Colors We Are</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- First read in English, then in Spanish</li></ul>   |
| 12 mins | 4. After reading, begin talking about all the ways that people can be the same and different. Have students brainstorm ideas and record them on a large paper for everyone to see. (Use Spanish words if necessary) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- age</li><li>- gender</li><li>- race</li><li>- religion</li><li>- traditions</li></ul>   |
| 8 mins  | 5. Give several examples of traditions from various cultures and ask students to volunteer a tradition that they have in their own homes. Record these on the paper also.   |

4 mins

6. Tell the students that we are going to have a celebration in two weeks to learn about everyone's traditions and families.

- Each student will bring some aspect of their culture or family tradition to school to share during the celebration

Some ideas are:

- a favorite food
  - a song or dance
  - artifact, picture
  - special family member
- Send home bilingual fliers to parents/families to tell them about the celebration, parents/families are encouraged to come (see attached)

7. Additional Activities

- Read Arthur Dorros' *Tonight is Carnival* and other cultural stories