

## Career Girls: Importance of Diversity

### Lesson Topic

Diversity

### Lesson Objective

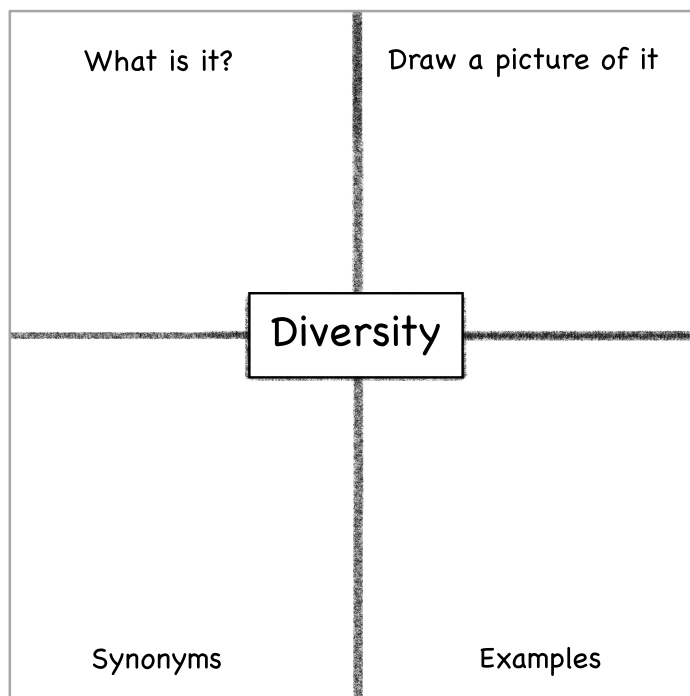
To introduce and build awareness of diversity; to understand the importance of your own and others' experiences, beliefs, backgrounds, and perspectives

### Preparation

Preview the video (1 minute, 26 seconds) in advance of the lesson.

### Warm-up Activity

1. Introduce the video topic (*diversity*).
2. Based on your preview of the video, determine which words to pre-teach, focusing on those that relate most directly to the video topic of diversity and will enhance understanding.
3. Begin by teaching the word *diversity* (*diverse*). You might begin by looking at a dictionary definition, then follow up by using a Word Map to enhance understanding. (See sample, below, adapting the categories as needed.)



4. Guide students to understand that diversity is all of the ways people are different.
5. Additional words/phrases to consider pre-teaching: *culture, bilingual, ethnic background, perspective, valuable*.

### View the Video: *Importance of Diversity*

Explain that students will hear people in the video talk about the value of diversity—for example, the different languages people speak and the different ways people have of solving problems.

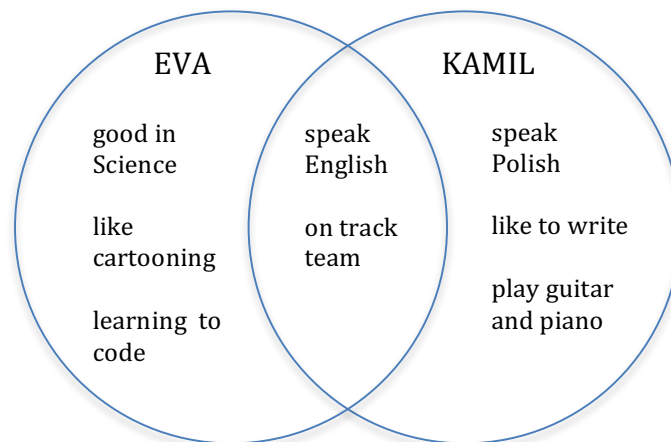
1. View the video together; encourage students to listen for the words *diversity* and *diverse*.
2. View the video again, this time asking students to listen for connections to their own lives—for example, in the way diversity and different ways of solving problems helps create stronger teams.

### Video Follow-up

1. Ask: “What is something you learned from the video that you didn’t know before?” “What is a question you have after watching the video?”
2. Revisit the first sentence in the video: “One of the most valuable things to any group is diversity.” Invite students to restate this sentence in their own words, for example, “It’s helpful to have people in your group who are not all the same.” Repeat with other phrases and statements from the video to build understanding.
3. Based on the video, what are some valuable differences that people bring to any group? (*upbringing, education, culture, language, appearance, gender, ethnic backgrounds, perspectives*) What other differences can students add to this list?
4. Based on the video, ask students why they think it is helpful for companies to employ people who speak more than one language. For example, “If you work for a company that sells things or has business in another country, it helps if you can speak the language of that country.”
5. Return to the Word Map from the Warm-up Activity. Have students suggest changes or additions they would make after viewing and discussing the video.

### Extension Activity

Explore the topic of diversity as it relates to the classroom to help students recognize the value of their own differences. Using a Venn diagram, have students work in pairs to identify likes/skills/abilities/etc. that they have in common and that are different.



### Related Questions and Ideas to Explore

- Think about working on a team—such as with a group project, a team sport, or the school play. Do you agree or disagree with the statement, “Differences are more valuable than similarities?” Why do you think that?

- In what ways is our class [school, community] diverse? What would it be like if everyone was exactly the same?
- True or False: “Diversity is only about the differences you can see.” (Ask students to explain their thinking.)
- Can you think of a problem in our [class, school, community, country, world]? How do you think a team of students/people with different ways of thinking could help solve this problem?
- What is something you’ve learned from someone whose ideas are different from your own?
- What is a career you might like to have someday? How do you think speaking more than one language might be helpful in this career?
- What questions do you have about diversity?