

Ways We Are the Same and Different

GOAL: Help students recognize ways that classmates are the same and different from one another and value the differences that make us unique.

Stand up if:

- You have one or more pets at home.
- You speak a language other than English.
- You play a sport of any kind.
- You like to sing.
- You like to play with just one friend at a time.
- You like to play in groups.
- If you are the youngest/oldest/(or somewhere in the middle) child in your family.
- If you were born in a country other than the United States.

Instructions for Virtual Adaptation:

1. Tell students that in order for them to work well as a class, it helps to understand how classmates are similar and different and to respect those differences.
2. Introduce the following activity, called “Stand Up/Sit Down.” Explain that you’ll be adapting a little bit since you’re not all in the same room. Then, explain how it will work:
 - You will make a series of statements (examples on the left).
 - If the statement is true for them, ask them to raise their hand (with video on). If no video, write “me” in the chat.
 - After each statement ask students to look around to notice who has their hand up and who doesn’t, in order to see what they can learn about each other.
 - Have everyone sit down after they have a few seconds to look around, and then share the next statement.
3. After all statements are read, ask students: What did you learn about the students in our class? Point out that some students have things in common and students can be also be different, and that is OK!



Source: **Panorama Playbook**, courtesy of **opencircle®**

Related Research: [Diversity and Complexity in the Classroom: Valuing Racial and Cultural Diversity](#)