

Europe in Perspective

Transnational Training on
Diversity in Cultural Learning

Training Programme

Exploring the different dimensions and definitions of diversity

Day (2)

8 Exploring the many dimensions of diversity 3

Activity

90 min

Useful for:

Getting to participants to reflect on the different aspects of diversity in their professional (co-operation) practice and start consider how they are already integrating them into their professional life

Resources needed

Marker pens in two colours (here: blue and pink)

Room layout:

Diversity maps of the exercise before lunch on the tables, chairs ready for plenary

What happens?

Participants are now put into different groups. One pair from each table should remain at the table and they should be joined by another pair. They shall now take different marker pens to mark the statements that each seems most important to them in their professional life working with children and young people. If you are working with artists/teacher pairs, it is a good idea to give one colour to teachers and another to artists and see whether there is a consistent difference between artists and teachers. They should also discuss how they currently incorporate these aspects of diversity in their current practice.

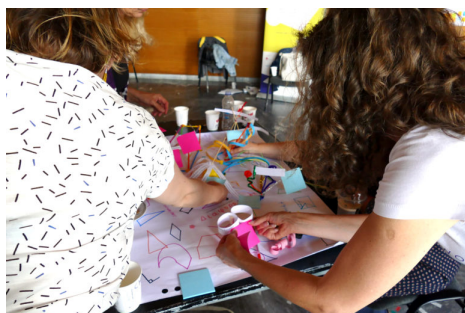
After they have done this, there should be a short whole group reflection exploring whether there are differences between teachers and artists as to which aspects of diversity are most important to address in the classroom.

Then, in the smaller table groups, they should select one (or more) of the aspects of diversity that they regard as important and together think of a performance/presentation/game to show the whole group. The aim of this presentation/game/performance should be that the others can guess the aspect the small group picked out of their diversity map.

Then taking turns, each table group should present their idea to everyone else and the others guess which aspects were covered.

Notes for facilitators:

The reflection at the end of this activity should consider all three 'Exploring the many dimensions of diversity' activities as well as the presentation. The point of the activities is to familiarise participants with the many different understandings of diversity that co-exist. This will enable them to focus on those aspects of diversity which are most relevant to their professional practice. It will also enable them to be clearer when they meet with others working in the field of diversity about where their practice is located in relation to others. One of the problems in this area is that people form partnerships to 'address diversity in the classroom' but the individual partners have quite different aims and agendas. Also in the reflection, it is important to address continuing worries about the language of diversity. It is complex and sometimes opaque, but it is important to understand it and work with it.



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