2.2 Icebreaker: Diversity Bingo

Student Objective
Students will gather knowledge of a topic through movement and communication.

Overview
In Diversity Bingo, students move around the room to find other students who fit the categories on the Diversity Bingo Card. Although five spaces in a row is a traditional bingo, challenge your students to cover all of the squares on their card, getting to know as many of the students in the class as possible.

Materials/Set-Up
- Student Handout:
  - 2.2a: Diversity Bingo Card
  - 2.2b: Diversity Bingo Card for Elementary
- Music (optional)

Instructional Steps
- Pass out one Diversity Bingo Card to each student.
- Determine how much time students will have to mingle with their classmates. Ten minutes is recommended.
- Give students directions for the game:
  - Read the descriptions in each square.
  - Write your name in one square that describes you.
  - Move around the room and talk to your classmates.
  - Find someone who matches the description in one of the squares that remains unfilled.
  - Then, write his/her name in the applicable square.
  - A person’s name may only be used once on the card.
  - Try to get as many boxes filled as possible during the allotted time.
- Music may be played to start and stop the activity, as upbeat music helps keep the movement flowing.
- Debrief with the class:
  - Check to see how students did: How many students filled in five boxes on their card? …10? …15? Did anyone fill in all of the squares?
  - What are some things that you learned about your peers?
  - How are you connected or did you relate to your classmates’ experiences?
  - How do the diverse experiences in the room contribute and add value to our learning environment?
Extension

- To increase rigor:
  - Create additional Diversity Bingo Cards related to content or vocabulary. Students must find others who can demonstrate their knowledge about what is in a square.
  - Create a Diversity Bingo Card with actions (e.g., “Can do three push-ups,” “Can whistle,” “Can rub their stomach and pat their head simultaneously,” “Can recite their 7 times tables”). Students must find someone in the room who can do the action by actually demonstrating it before signing off on their card.

- To increase scaffolding, give students a blank Diversity Bingo Card and have them randomly write in names from a list of students in the class and/or people in the school community (e.g., nurse, counselor, music director, principal) and play a traditional game of bingo, calling names until someone has five in a row. This helps students learn the names of people who they will interact with at school.
### Diversity Bingo Card

**Name: ________________________________ Date: ________________**

*Find a person who matches the description in the box. Write their name in the box, making sure to spell it correctly. You may not use the same person for more than one box.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Has been to the beach.</th>
<th>Likes to read.</th>
<th>Speaks more than one language.</th>
<th>Has a dog.</th>
<th>Has visited or lived in another country.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Has more than six letters in their first name.</td>
<td>Has more than five cousins.</td>
<td>Likes to cook.</td>
<td>Was born in a country other than the United States.</td>
<td>Favorite subject is English.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has exactly one brother.</td>
<td>Has had a broken bone.</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Likes to spend time with their grandparents.</td>
<td>Has lived in another state.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has to do chores around the house.</td>
<td>Is very good with computers.</td>
<td>Was born in the United States.</td>
<td>Has flown on an airplane.</td>
<td>Has communicated online.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plays a sport.</td>
<td>Has a birthday in the same month as me.</td>
<td>Has more than two siblings.</td>
<td>Is new to our school this year.</td>
<td>Is the oldest child in their family.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Diversity Bingo Card for Elementary

Name: ____________________________________________ Date: ________________

Find a person who matches the description in the box. Write their name in the box, making sure to spell it correctly. You may not use the same name for more than one box.

- Likes pizza
- Likes football
- Has a dog
- Knows how to swim
- Has been on an airplane
- Was born in the United States
- Can ride a bicycle
- Favorite color is BLUE
- Has a birthday in the same month as me