

HARMONY WEEK EDUCATION KIT FOR SCHOOLS



Harmony Week is a great opportunity to get together as a whole school and celebrate the diversity of backgrounds, languages, beliefs and family stories that reflect your community.

However, there is no need to limit exploring other cultures to just one day or week. Below are some curriculum-aligned ideas for developing intercultural understanding and integrating the themes of harmony and diversity into a range of school subject learning areas at any time of year.

	Young learners	Middle/late childhood learners	Teen/secondary school learners
English	<p>Same but different</p> <p>As a class, discuss the word 'diversity' and brainstorm the types of ways that people can be 'diverse' (for example, looks, who they live with, where they come from, their interests, etc). Then pair up with a friend and give a short oral presentation about how you are similar and different to each other, and why you get along.</p>	<p>Writing prompts</p> <p>Type in the words 'people harmony diversity' into a search engine and look at the images that come up. Discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How do the images make you feel and why? Who and where might the different people shown in the pictures be? What are they doing? What might they have been doing before and after this photo was taken? <p>Choose one image and use it as a prompt to write a short story. For an extra challenge, re-write your story from a different point of view.</p>	<p>Songs of Harmony</p> <p>Listen to songs relating to race, diversity and harmony, then discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the background of the person who wrote the lyrics? What values or attitudes are communicated in the song? What makes you say this? To what extent is the message of the lyrics relevant to Australia today? Other than these song lyrics, can you name examples of other forms of popular culture that explore the theme of diversity (for example, films, video games, comics)? Are the messages they contain generally positive or negative? <p>Debate: List at least three ways that radio and other media can promote cultural diversity.</p>

Young learners

Celebrations and commemorations

Harmony Week is a time to celebrate Australia's diversity. What other things **are celebrated or commemorated in our community?** Make a list of special family events such as birthdays, religious festivals and community events you have taken part in and talk about the sorts of things you do during these times. Discuss: does everyone celebrate the same things, in the same way?

Often, celebrations are a time to get together to share special food with friends and family. On a template of a dinner plate, draw your favourite 'celebration' food. If you like, you can pretend to eat it, too! Will you be eating with your hands? A knife and fork? With chopsticks? Or in some other way?

Middle/late childhood learners

Cultural collages

Chose an Aboriginal language group or a country from around the world and create a collage that represents its culture. Some things you might include in your collage are pictures of traditional clothing, staple foods, significant places, religious and other festivals, traditional crafts or popular games and sports. Annotate or label the images you use.

Make a list of questions you have about the culture of your chosen country, and see if there is anyone in your class or school that you could interview to answer them.

Teen/secondary school learners

Origins of a tradition

Harmony Week was originally based on the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, commemorated on 21 March. 21 March is the anniversary of the Sharpeville Massacre, when South African police fired on a peaceful demonstration against apartheid.

Visit the National Library of Australia's **Trove** website to find newspaper reports relating to the incident. (You will need to type in 'Sharpeville Massacre' into the search bar, and then choose 'digitised newspapers and more.')

The good, the bad, the interesting

Working in small groups, complete a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis associated with cultural diversity or social inclusion in Australia.

Afterwards, discuss:

- What do we need as a society to make sure people are included and feel a sense of belonging?

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HASS			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are there any job opportunities that open up because of our cultural diversity? Does cultural diversity affect how we socialise, relax and spend our leisure time? What government services might be provided in response to cultural diversity? How might imports and exports be affected by Australia being multicultural? Are there any ways that business operations may need to change when their customers and employees come from different cultures?
Maths	<p>1,2,3</p> <p>How many different ways can you count to 10? Ask a classmate who speaks a different language to teach you how to count in their language, or learn how to write numbers using different writing systems from around the world.</p>	<p>Everyone counts</p> <p>Create an online survey on a topic linked to Harmony Week. Your survey could pose questions about your classmates' cultural backgrounds, languages they speak, or how they would like to celebrate Harmony Week. Once you collect the data, present your findings as graphs, percentages or ratios. About a third of people who live in WA were born overseas. Is your class more or less multicultural than the rest of WA?</p> <p>You can also find out how far away different people's birthplaces were from where you live today. Who was born farthest?</p>	<p>A universal language</p> <p>Our standard base 10 number system has its roots in Hindu-Arabic academic traditions—but it is not the only way that numbers are grouped and organised. Check out these 12 mind blowing number systems from other languages, and investigate traditional Aboriginal number systems used in Australia. Given these different ways of thinking about numbers, why is it sometimes said that 'Maths is a universal language'?</p>

Young learners**Special animals**

Many countries have a national animal, which appears on that country's flag or emblem, or which is otherwise considered special. Choose some examples of national animals from different countries and talk about what sorts of environments they live in, what they eat and what their features are. Can you suggest a reason why the animals are considered special?

Middle/late childhood learners**Inventing a better world**

Brainstorm a list of inventions or discoveries that have helped to bring people together by making it easier to travel, see and communicate with each other. Find out who made these inventions and discoveries, and which countries they came from.

Teen/secondary school learners**Quick three**

Each day of Harmony Week, challenge yourself to learn three new facts about Aboriginal scientific knowledge. To get you started, here are some topics you could investigate:

- **The physics of a boomerang**
- **Noongar concept of seasons**
- **Science behind the didgeridoo**
- **Traditional medicine**
- **Chemistry of balga or spinifex resin**
- **Aboriginal knowledge of historic sea level changes**
- **Fire management**
- **Astronomy.**

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Arts	<p>Dancing feet</p> <p>Have a brain break and dance to music from around the world. Bring and share music recordings that are special to your family and, if you can, demonstrate traditional dance steps to others in the class. Alternatively, watch a video of traditional dances and then work your way through some fun dance tutorials!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 'Dancing on the clock' African dance tutorial ▪ Bollywood party dance moves ▪ Hula dance ▪ Haka cartoon tutorial. 	<p>Paper fun</p> <p>Many countries have traditional paper crafts. Have a go at creating beautiful designs or fun art projects from around the world. Here are some tutorials and ideas to get you started:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Origami (Japan) ▪ Papel picado (Mexico) ▪ Wycinanki (Poland) ▪ Paper fans (Vietnam) ▪ Lantern craft (China). <p>You might like to try other craft activities from around the world, too!</p>	<p>Signs and symbols</p> <p>How would you communicate the concepts of 'harmony', 'peace', 'respect' and 'celebrating cultural diversity' without using words? Brainstorm as many different ideas as you can think of with your friends and then design a logo for Harmony Week.</p>
Technologies	<p>Different ways to live</p> <p>Explore the different ways people live, farm and garden around the world, comparing the types of plants they grow, the animals they raise, and what they build their houses from. Make sure you try to find out what both the outside and the inside of the houses looks like. Then, use a range of different materials to build your own model house, garden or paddock.</p>	<p>Tasting the world</p> <p>Some types of foods and clothing are strongly associated with a particular country or region. The making of these items generally started on a small scale, meeting the needs of individual families and their close communities. Explore how modern technology allows mass production of food and fibre, making it easier for people today to access unique and regional products from around the world. For example:</p> <p>Europe: Olive oil Australia: Macadamia nuts Asia: Silk Africa: Coffee North America: Maple syrup Central America: Cocoa</p>	<p>Sharing food, sharing culture</p> <p>Find and cook a recipe from another country. If you need some inspiration, check out these Dishes for Harmony or Easy International Recipes.</p> <p>Once the food is ready, eat it while practising good table manners from that country. (See table manners around the world to get you started).</p>

Young learners**Sing-along songs**

Did you know that some nursery rhymes have travelled around the world and have been translated into different languages?

Learn how to sing foreign language versions of 'If you're happy and you know it' or 'Old MacDonald had a farm', and have a go at other **traditional songs** from around the globe.

Middle/late childhood learners**Friendly words**

Brainstorm a list of words and phrases that indicate inclusiveness, acceptance, respect and friendship. For example:

- Would you like to play?
- Let me help you with that.
- Let's do this together.
- Would you like to share?
- Are you OK?
- Come join us!

Ask your classmates or teachers who speak a different language to teach you how to say the phrases in their language—and then practise using them throughout Harmony Week (and beyond!).

Teen/secondary school learners**Rate an app**

Learning a language is a great way to appreciate and get to know another culture. There are many apps available to help you get started or develop your foreign language skills. Some that you can try for free include:

- Memrise
- Duolingo
- TripLingo
- Busuu
- HelloTalk
- Rosetta Stone.

Pick an app you are not familiar with, and use it to practise a language; you can try to improve on a language you are studying at school, or start learning a new one. What criteria would you use to rate a language-learning app? Try out several different ones, and use your criteria to rate them from least to most effective. Compare your rating with friends—do you all agree which app is the best?

Young learners**Let's play together**

Play some games that focus on **cooperation** and teamwork rather than competition, or try some **popular schoolyard games from other countries**.

Middle/late childhood learners**Aaaaand relax**

Tai Chi is a type of Chinese martial art that is practised around the world as a form of gentle exercise. The movements of Tai Chi are slow and tranquil, and help to promote a peaceful mind and body. Likewise, Yoga, which originates from India, is an exercise and philosophy based on balance and harmony within each person and with each other. Have a go at doing some simple **Tai Chi** exercises or **Yoga** stretches when you need a break from sitting down.

Teen/secondary school learners**Let's play!**

Many people believe that Australian Rules football may have been influenced by a traditional Aboriginal game from Victoria, called marn-grook. Have a go at playing marn-grook and other **traditional Indigenous games** from different language groups around Australia.

HARMONY WEEK ACTIVITIES

CULTURE CROSSWORD

Can you solve the clues relating to the top 10 places of birth for Australia's migrants?

DOWN

1. A traditional Scottish instrument made from sheepskin and featuring a set of pipes.
2. A type of traditional clothing worn in India.
3. A type of dried, cured meat commonly eaten in South Africa.
6. Capital city of the Philippines.
6. A traditional Chinese practice that involves slow, flowing movements and deep breathing.

ACROSS

3. A famous English clock tower that chimes every hour.
4. A popular Italian sports car known for its speed and sleek design.
5. Malaysia's national dish, made with rice cooked in coconut milk and served with various accompaniments.
8. Maori word for New Zealand.
9. A small, Irish fairy.



LET'S GET TO KNOW

The countries below are birthplaces of the fastest growing migrant communities in Australia. Let's learn about them!

Match each country to a fact about it.

BHUTAN

NEPAL

SYRIA

PAKISTAN

COLUMBIA

SOUTH SUDAN

BRAZIL

The capital of this country, Damascus, is one of the oldest cities in the world.

This country doesn't have a single traffic light.

This country is the newest country in the world.

This country is home to the youngest Nobel prize-winner in the world.

This country is home to the Amazon Rainforest.

This country has the world's second highest population of Spanish-speaking people.

This country is home to the highest mountain in the world.

ODD ONE OUT FOR DINNER

Four friends agreed to hold a potluck dinner, with everyone bringing a dish from the same country. On the night, three people stuck to the chosen country—but alas, one friend got it wrong!

Pick the dish that doesn't belong. For a bonus point, can you guess which country is the theme for dinner?

1 COUNTRY:

- a. Sushi
- b. Ramen
- c. Tacos
- d. Matcha

2 COUNTRY:

- a. Naan bread
- b. Chai tea
- c. Kimchi
- d. Samosa

3 COUNTRY:

- a. Jollof rice
- a. Pho ga
- a. Fufu
- a. Banku

4 COUNTRY:

- a. Beef rendang
- a. Lasagne
- a. Tiramisu
- a. Gnocchi

5 COUNTRY:

- a. Ful medames
- b. Koshari
- c. Shawarma
- d. Boeuf bourguignon

6 COUNTRY:

- a. Poutine
- b. Guacamole
- c. Tamales
- d. Enchiladas

7 COUNTRY:

- a. Peking duck
- b. Dim sum
- c. Chicken adobo
- d. Hot pot

8 COUNTRY:

- a. Pad Thai
- b. Tom yum soup
- c. Kabuli pulao
- d. Mango sticky rice

9 COUNTRY:

- a. Moussaka
- b. Tzatziki
- c. Spanakopita
- d. Pierogi

10 COUNTRY:

- a. Tajine
- b. Acai
- c. Feijoada
- d. Churrasco barbecue

11 COUNTRY:

- a. Borscht
- b. Pelmeni
- c. Peking duck
- d. Caviar

12 COUNTRY:

- a. Spaetzle
- b. Sauerbraten
- c. Schnitzel
- d. Haggis

BORROWED WORDS

Many words we commonly use in English come from other languages. Find these borrowed words in the wordsearch, and then match each word to the language it came from.

R	S	C	A	C	A	K	A	N	G	A	R	O	O
B	A	Z	A	A	R	L	C	S	S	A	Z	Y	R
O	E	R	Y	O	A	S	A	F	A	R	I	K	E
A	D	W	D	G	G	L	L	G	R	K	I	V	D
Y	O	G	A	A	G	E	G	A	E	N	N	D	A
B	A	L	E	O	G	D	K	E	D	G	B	E	M
A	A	L	A	A	N	R	A	E	B	R	W	M	S
L	E	E	B	E	A	K	R	E	O	R	Z	O	O
A	L	A	R	V	M	G	L	S	G	A	A	C	E
C	O	A	D	O	A	O	E	A	R	A	R	R	E
L	L	A	C	R	L	F	J	K	A	I	A	A	K
A	A	R	T	A	E	O	O	I	C	O	A	C	C
V	L	E	A	O	N	W	S	R	L	N	A	Y	R
A	N	D	D	K	F	B	B	B	A	L	L	E	T

WORD	ORIGIN
Aardvark	
Algebra	
Balaclava	
Ballet	
Bazaar	
Cargo	
Democracy	
Emoji	
Kangaroo	
Kindergarten	
Safari	
Solo	
Wok	
Yoga	

WORD ORIGINS

Arabic · Cantonese · French · German · Greek ·
Guugu Yimithirr · Italian · Japanese · Persian · Russian ·
Sanskrit · Spanish · Swahili · Afrikaans

EMOJIS AGAINST RACISM

Below are some statements about racism. Read each statement and draw at least one an emoji that represents how you feel about it. You can select from the emoji options provided, or add others.

RACISM HURTS PEOPLE.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO STAND UP TO RACISM AND SPEAK OUT AGAINST IT.

WE CAN ALL DO OUR PART TO FIGHT AGAINST RACISM AND PROMOTE HARMONY.

EVERYONE SHOULD BE TREATED WITH RESPECT, REGARDLESS OF THEIR ETHNIC BACKGROUND OR ANCESTRY.

STEREOTYPING PEOPLE BASED ON THEIR ETHNIC BACKGROUND IS A FORM OF RACISM.

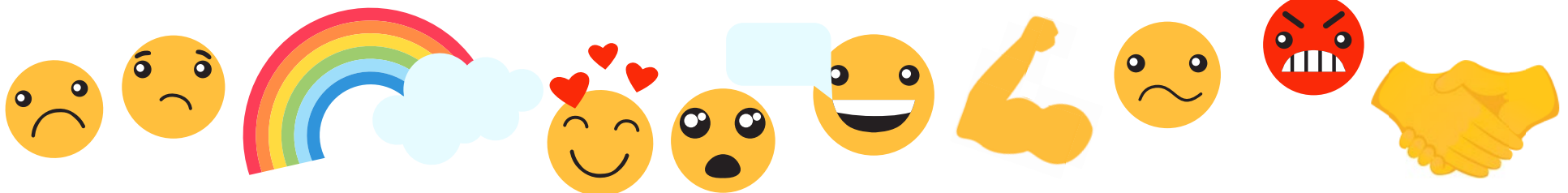
RACIAL DISCRIMINATION CAN HAPPEN IN MANY DIFFERENT FORMS, SUCH AS NAME-CALLING, EXCLUSION, OR VIOLENCE.

ANTI-RACISM MEANS ACTIVELY WORKING TO CREATE A SOCIETY WHERE EVERYONE IS EQUAL AND HAS THE SAME OPPORTUNITIES.

EVERYONE HAS A ROLE TO PLAY IN CREATING A WORLD WITHOUT RACISM.

RACISM CAN CAUSE LONG-TERM HARM TO BOTH INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES.

EDUCATION IS KEY TO COMBATING RACISM AND PROMOTING UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN DIFFERENT CULTURES.



ACTIVATE FOR CHANGE

Harmony Week is a time for celebrating cultural diversity. It reminds us that everyone deserves to be treated with respect, regardless of their ethnic background or ancestry. By embracing the values of Harmony Week and promoting inclusion, we can create a society free from racism and discrimination.

THERE ARE VARIOUS WAYS THAT YOU CAN STAND UP TO RACISM:

CAN YOU THINK OF ANYTHING ELSE YOU CAN DO?



- 1 Challenge racist attitudes and behaviour, such as speaking out against racist jokes.
- 2 Use social media to share resources and stories about racism and its impact.
- 3 Contact politicians to voice concerns and advocate for change.
- 4 Join, volunteer, donate and otherwise support organisations that work towards racial justice, such as [All Together Now](#), [Reconciliation WA](#) or [Together for Humanity](#).

WHAT MIGHT BE A GOOD SOCIAL MEDIA POST TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO STAND UP AGAINST RACISM?

DESIGN BRIEF: ANTI-RACISM CAMPAIGN

OBJECTIVE

Create a logo and a slogan for an anti-racism campaign that promotes inclusivity, diversity and acceptance.

GUIDELINES

- 1 The logo and slogan should be clear, simple, and memorable.
- 2 The design should convey the message of the campaign in a creative and impactful way.
- 3 The use of colour should be purposeful and meaningful.
- 4 The design should be suitable for use on posters, t-shirts, and other campaign materials.
- 5 The slogan should be short and catchy, and should inspire people to take action against racism.
- 6 The design should avoid any cultural or racial stereotypes, and should promote inclusivity.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Young people aged 12 to 16 who are interested in social justice and equality.

DELIVERABLES

- 1 A digital file of the logo in PNG or JPEG format, with a resolution of at least 300 dpi.
- 2 A written explanation of the design choices, including the reasoning behind the colour choices and the slogan.
- 3 A sketch or mock-up of the design on a poster or t-shirt.

EXPLORE THE WORLD ... VIRTUALLY

Virtual field trips

[Google Arts & Culture](#)

[National Geographic Kids](#)

[Explore.org](#)

[Dollar Street - How People Live Around the World](#)

Virtual museum tours

[Cairo Museum, Egypt](#)

[Louvre Museum, France](#)

[Museum of Islamic Art, Qatar](#)

[Rijksmuseum, The Netherlands](#)

Global music

[Putumayo Kids](#)

[Smithsonian Folkways](#)

[Songs and Rhymes](#)

Fun and leisure

[Multicultural Games](#)

[Schoolyard Games](#)

[Children's Favourite Things](#)

For a while, the Covid-19 pandemic put a stop to many people's travels but it also opened up a whole bunch of opportunities to explore the world virtually. Sit back, and discover different cultures from your desktop!

Language-learning apps

[Duolingo](#)

[Memrise](#)

[Busuu](#)

Cultural crafts

[Kids World Citizen](#)

[Art and Design from around the World](#)

[How 11 Crafts and Traditions Survived for Centuries](#)

Cooking from around the world

[SBS Food](#)

[BBC Cuisines](#)

[Bon Voyage with Kids](#)

[Lunch to go around the world](#)

Cultural festivals

[DK Find Out: Holidays and Festivals](#)

[Fest300](#)

[24 Festivals From Around the World](#)

Global pen pals

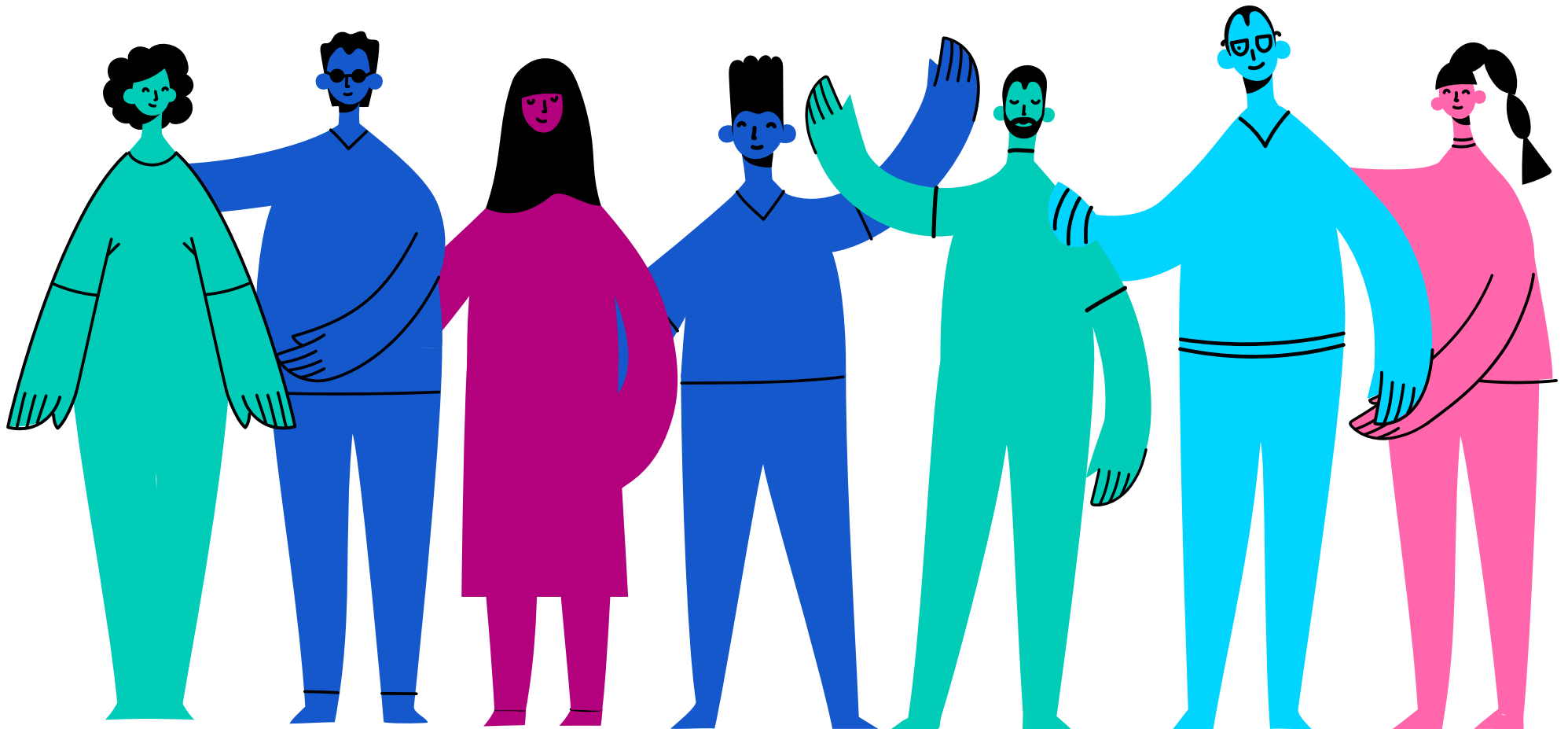
Students of the World

Global Penfriends

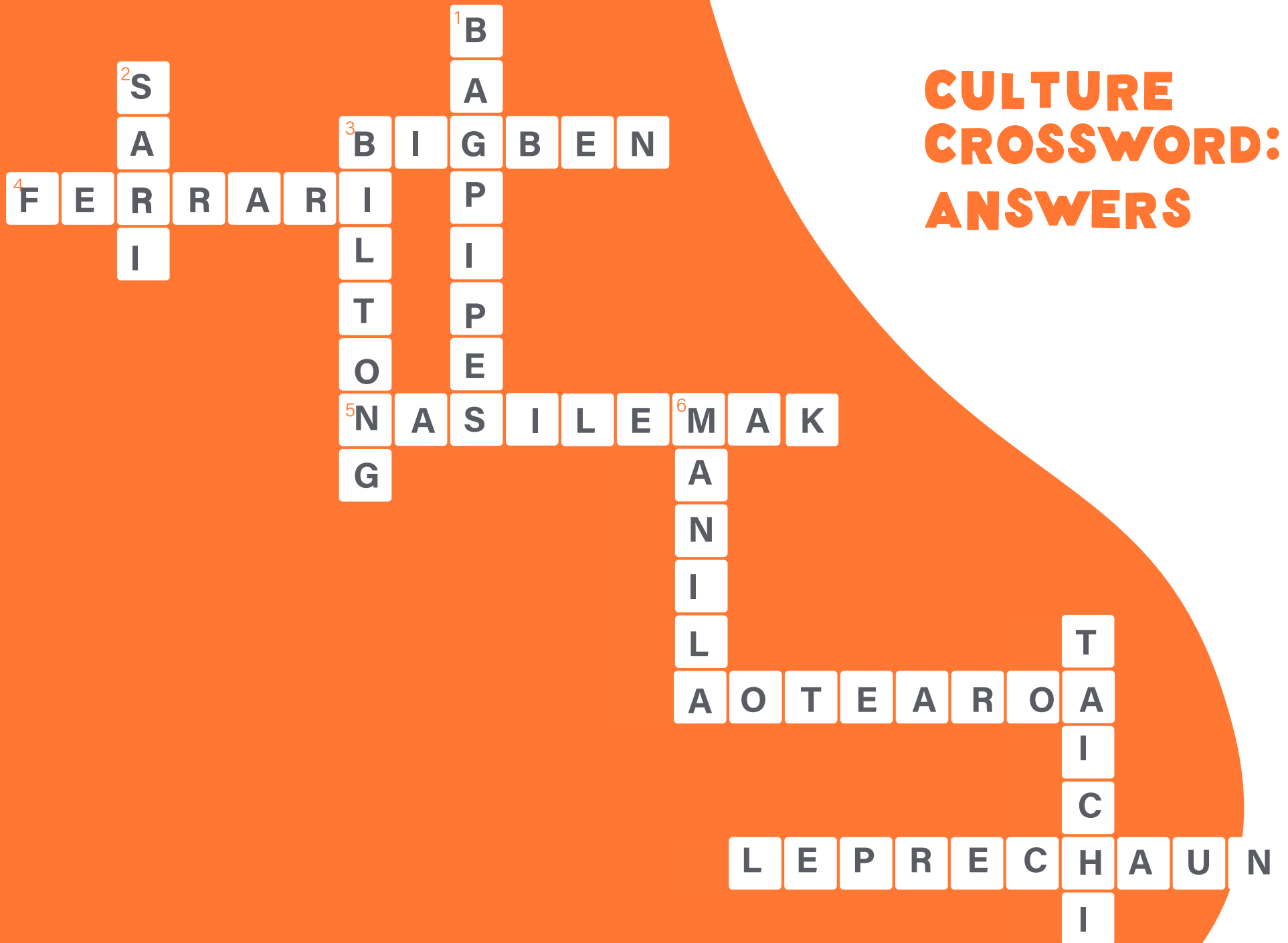
Storytelling

Storyline Online

Cross-Cultural Storytelling



**HARMONY WEEK
ANSWERS**



LET'S GET TO KNOW: ANSWERS

BHUTAN

The capital of this country, Damascus, is one of the oldest cities in the world.

NEPAL

This country doesn't have a single traffic light.

SYRIA

This country is the newest country in the world.

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Aardvark	Afrikaans
Algebra	Arabic
Balaclava	Russian
Ballet	French
Bazaar	Persian
Cargo	Spanish
Democracy	Greek
Emoji	Japanese
Kangaroo	Guugu Yimithirr
Kindergarten	German
Safari	Swahili
Solo	Italian
Wok	Cantonese
Yoga	Sanskrit

WORD ORIGINS

Arabic · Cantonese · French · German · Greek · Guugu Yimithirr · Italian · Japanese · Persian · Russian · Sanskrit · Spanish · Swahili · Afrikaans

EMOJIS AGAINST RACISM

The emojis shown here are examples only—students may choose different responses.



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MULTICULTURAL INTERESTS**

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