

## Lesson 1: Race

*Diversity is our great national treasure. It invites us to discover the stories of human connection.*

Racial Harmony Day reminds us that while we are uniquely different – we are all equal and one. This event inspires and invites us to embrace solidarity. It also reminds Singaporeans of brotherhood and the deep emotional bond that is shared. While different races bring variety in cultural and religious tradition to the community, it is important to keep in mind that each Person has a special and indispensable role to play. No one should be minimized because of race, culture and religion.

**Race** is a lesson that enhances students' appreciation of diversity. Through discussion, sharing of stories and interviews with other people, students gain insights on the value of diversity and learn skills in relating with people of different backgrounds.

## Lesson 2: Inter-Religious Mindfulness

*Dialogue takes us beyond tolerance to truly appreciating the cultural and religious heritage of peoples of different faiths.*

Deeper understanding of the different cultures and religious traditions strengthens dialogue. Inter-faith conversations increase the level of appreciation, interest and compassion on the views of others. It does not mean we proselytize or prove that our religion is better than the other. Engaging in dialogue between different religions is necessary to promote greater harmony and depth of faith for each religion. Inter-religious mindfulness requires acceptance, respect and admiration of one another despite differences.

**Inter-religious mindfulness** offers the opportunity to talk about the 10 different religions that exist in Singapore. It explores the idea of belongingness to a particular faith community and proposes inter-faith dialogue as a tool for use in the school.

## Lesson 3: Breaking Through the Walls of Stereotypes

*Freedom from stereotypes promotes deeper appreciation of the uniqueness of each person.*

Stereotypes, especially negative and demeaning stereotypes, are a serious concern that we face today. Stereotypes represent a fixed and oversimplified belief or assumed knowledge over a person or a group of persons. It is a negative way of categorizing people. However, stereotypes can be broken and eliminated.

**Breaking through the walls of stereotypes** is an interesting lesson that challenges students to identify the stereotypes that are prevalent in them and in the school – especially those that subtly influence decisions and actions of individuals or groups. Through video clips, discussion and sharing, students get to understand that stereotypes can be shattered. When we bring people together to open up and honestly share who they are, stereotypes begin to break. We begin to discover that other people are not the one-dimensional mental picture created by our stereotypes.