

# WHO IS AN IMMIGRANT?



nearpod

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Adapted from  
TEACHING  
TOLERANCE

A PROJECT OF THE SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER



# ESSENTIAL QUESTION

How can I help make the world a better place?

# Slideshow

# CHARACTER BUILDING OBJECTIVES

This lesson aims to empower you to develop empathy for those who move to a new country as immigrants or refugees.

1

2

# LEARNING OBJECTIVES

**By the end of this lesson, you will be able to...**

- ✓ explain what it means to be an immigrant.
- ✓ describe how an immigrant might feel moving to a new country.

1

2



Let's get  
started!





## TODAY'S LESSON

Today we will learn how to define "immigrant" and "refugee." We will read a story of a young girl who immigrated to the United States. We will discover her struggles as she begins a life in a new country as an immigrant. Then, we will explore what things influence our identity, like culture. We will learn how we can celebrate our own identity as well as that of those around us, even though we have differences.



Let's  
explore!





## **EXPLORING SANTO DOMINGO**

On the next slide, you will explore a street in Santo Domingo. As you explore, imagine what it would be like to live there. How is it different from where you live now?





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Luis Davilla / 360cities.net



# Draw It

How do you think you might feel if you suddenly moved to Santo Domingo?





## **CLASS DISCUSSION**

What might it be like to move to a place that is different from where you live now?



# Let's learn!





## KEY TERMS

Take a few minutes to review the key terms on the following slides. Read the definitions to yourself first and try to sound out the word. After, we will read and discuss each of the terms as a class.

# Slideshow



# IDENTITY



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# IDENTITY

Your **identity** is who you are. Someone's identity is the qualities, characteristics, or beliefs that make them who they are.

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2

# Slideshow



# IMMIGRANT



1

2





# IMMIGRANT

An **immigrant** is someone who moves permanently to another country from the land they were born in.

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# Slideshow



**REFUGEE**



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2





# REFUGEE

A **refugee** is someone who is forced to leave his or her home or country to seek safety or protection.

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# Slideshow



# CULTURE



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# CULTURE

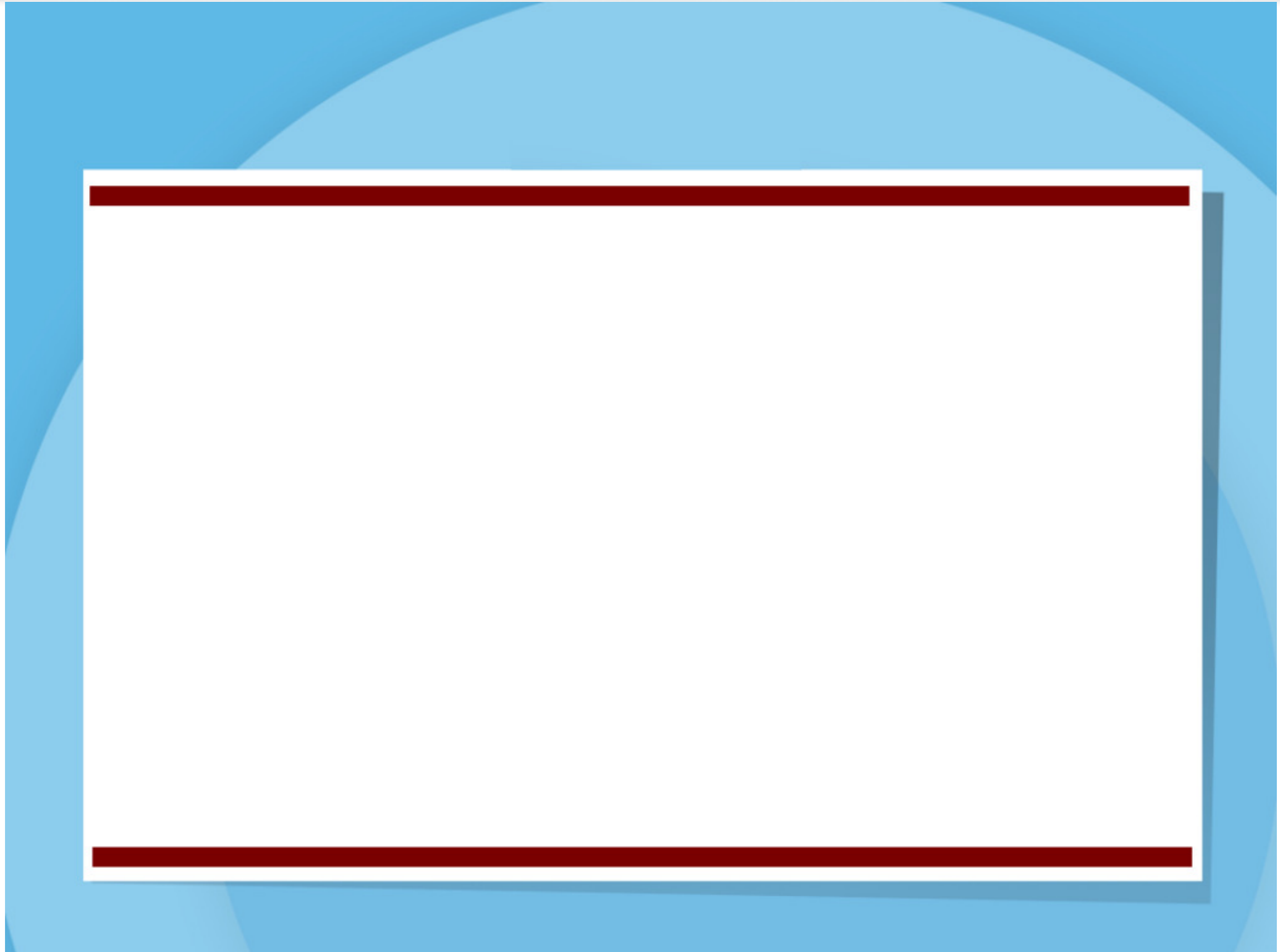
**Culture** is a way of living passed down through generations. Culture can be art, language, family, beliefs, customs, types of food, and religion.

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# Draw It

Draw a picture that represents your identity and culture.







**Let's read!**



# THE STORY OF AN IMMIGRANT

On the next slide, we will read a story called, “Julia Moves to the United States” by Sean McCollum. As we read the story together, think about how Julia feels moving to a new country. How are these feelings the same or different from the feelings you thought of at the beginning of the lesson?



# TEACHING TOLERANCE

A PROJECT OF THE SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER

## Julia Moves to the United States

Magazine Department: Story Corner  
Number 47: Summer 2014

When 10-year-old Julia Alvarez immigrated to New York, she learned the power of words.

Illustration by Susan Estelle Kwan

Close your eyes for just a minute. Take a deep breath and turn on your imaginations. Imagine that you are going on a trip with your family—a big trip. Maybe you're going into a car, or maybe a boat, bus or train. Don't forget to bring your suitcase! Start moving. Later, on the way, you'll travel a long way. It takes hours. It tastes different from anything you've ever tasted. The kids you meet on the playground. More than anything, you want to talk to them. Imagine how you feel. Julia Alvarez was born in New York City. Julia's parents, who had experienced the same feelings, were from a country called the Dominican Republic. When Julia was still a baby, her family moved to that warm, sunny country. Each summer, Julia's family shared a big beach house in the Dominican Republic with her aunts, uncles and cousins. There, Julia played with her three sisters and many cousins, laughing loudly and shouting to each other in Spanish. Julia enjoyed having fun, making mischief and making up stories. The Dominican Republic, though, was an unsafe place at the time. Julia's father was in danger, and he decided the family should escape. When Julia was 10 years old, they flew back to New York to start a new life. At first, Julia was very excited to return to where she had been born. But being an immigrant in a new land was harder

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may also appear to be a common experience for many young girls in the United States. They teased her with their frilly dresses and dark curly hair. They turned up their noses at the spicy, garlicky food in her lunch box. The teasing hurt Julia's feelings, and she grew quiet and shy. When she wanted to get away from her unhappiness, she escaped between the covers of books. Those stories took Julia's imagination to wonderful and exciting places. Figuring out new words helped her English get better and better. Julia changed to fit in and make friends. She tried to hide that she was an immigrant so other kids wouldn't make fun of her. She only spoke English outside of her home. She fixed her hair to make it straight, not curly. She and her sisters did everything they could to behave like they thought American girls were supposed to behave.





How did Julia feel about moving to the United States?

**Collaborate!**



# Slideshow



## COMING TO AMERICA

When an immigrant comes to the United States, they leave the country they were born in and want to make the United States their new, permanent home. But why do people want to leave their country and come to the United States?

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## COMING TO AMERICA

In 2009, a group called “Public Agenda” asked a group of immigrants about coming to America.

- 87% said they are happier with life in America.
- 88% believe that America offers a better place to earn a living than their birth country.
- 76% believe that the United States is special when compared to other countries.
- 71% believe that they made the best choice to immigrate to the United States.



## **IMMIGRANT VS REFUGEE**

A refugee is someone who flees their country to find safety. A refugee is different from an immigrant, because a refugee is forced to leave their home for safety and an immigrant chooses to leave their home to find a better life.



# Poll

**Do you think Julia and her family were immigrants or refugees?**

- Immigrants
- Refugees



## **THINK-PAIR-SHARE**

Imagine you found out Julia was going to move into your neighborhood. How would you feel about this?

# Draw It



Draw or describe how you might make Julia feel more welcome when she first moved to the United States.



## THINK-PAIR-SHARE

When Julia's family came to the United States, they could only bring a few suitcases! With a partner, talk about what you might bring with you if you were moving to a new country.

# Draw It

Draw the things you would want to fit in your suitcase if you were moving to a new country.







Let's see  
what we  
know!

# Draw It

How do you think an immigrant feels when they move to a new country?



## **CLASS DISCUSSION**

What is the difference between a refugee and an immigrant? Why do these people leave their home country?





Let's  
reflect!

# Poll

**How well do you understand what it might be like to be an immigrant?**

- Very well
- Pretty well
- Not well at all

# Thank you





# Haitians Eat Dirt Cookies to Survive



# Poll

**After seeing this, how do you feel?**

- good
- bad
- indifferent/could care less





Does poverty really exist in America? Explain

## Collaborate Board

Based upon the nearpod and the video reflect and answer.

**Does poverty really exist in America? Explain**