



## SOCA 4-6 L2 THE EMPATHY PATH

**Grade:** 4-6

**Competency Area:** Social-Awareness

**Lesson Title:** The Empathy Path (Lesson #2)

**T-SEL Standard:** 3.B.2. Students name ways people's identities and experiences may lead to different emotional reactions. Students show curiosity about and strive to take the perspective of others based on what they know about that person or group. Students show empathy and compassion for others.

**Duration:** 20 minutes

**Materials Needed:** ChalkWild erasable backpack + ChalkWild chalk markers + terry cloth

### **Lesson Directions:**

#### **1. Introduction:**

- Begin by asking students "What does the word perspective mean?" and invite several students to share their ideas aloud.
- Then provide the following definition of the word "Perspective is your point of view, your way of experiencing, thinking about, and understanding something."
- Ask students to think of a situation where each person involved had a different perspective.
- Instruct students to turn and share their experience with a partner.

**2. Drawing Activity: "The Empathy Path."** Explain the activity: "Today, you'll go to different corners of the room to explore different perspectives on a situation and draw them."

- Have students put their backpacks on their back because they will be traveling with them to a different location in the room.
- Label each corner of the room one of the following: Curiosity, Confusion, Welcoming, Nervous.
- Read the following scenario and instruct students to move to the corner of the room which best represents their perspective on the situation: "The school cafeteria announced a big change for lunch. Instead of the usual pizza and chicken nuggets, this week's special is a new, healthy dish from a different country. Nobody has heard of it before."





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- Repeat the process three more times using the following situations:
    - “Your teacher announces that you are going on a field trip to a place you have never heard of before.”
    - “You have been asked to stand up and present during the next whole-school assembly.”
    - “For summer vacation your parents have signed you up for a two-week sleepover summer camp.”
  - Bring the students back together and instruct them to get out their backpacks.
  - Explain that everyone has different perspectives in a situation.
  - Have students draw on their backpack an illustration that represents the word perspective.
- 3. Sharing and Discussion:**
- Put a five-minute timer on the board for all students to see.
  - Explain to students that they will have five minutes to wander around the room and show as many other students as possible their illustration of perspective.
  - Students put their backpacks on and wander around the room.
  - As they wander, students should find at least three other students to share their illustration with.
  - When the timer goes off the activity is over.

