

Student Activity



Topic

Friendship,
Relationship



Competency

Relationship Skills,
Self-Awareness



Grade Band

Elementary School

Gema and Sarah

When Gema and Sarah first met, they could not talk to each other, but they developed a silent connection that led to friendship. Their relationship is based on respect, kindness, and an unspoken language that helped them become friends.

Conversation Starters and Writing Prompts

The conversation starters and writing prompts following each video are designed to help youth understand their own mirrors and windows and how their perspectives, feelings and behaviors influence how they see and feel about themselves and others. Please review the **Defining US Facilitator Guide** for a full explanation of design, suggested implementation, and best practices using the videos and prompts.

How Do We See?

1. What is the most important thing you learned from Sarah and Gema's story?
2. Do you or someone in your life have a similar story? If so, explain.
3. What part of this story did you like best and least?
4. Who was the most interesting or memorable person in the story? Sarah, Gema, or someone else? Why?

What Do We Feel?

1. How does this story make you feel - happy, uncomfortable, sad, mad, or something else?
2. Can you share why you think you may have those feelings?
3. What were the parts of the story that made you feel good and/or bad?
4. How did Sarah and Gema discover they wanted to be friends?
5. How does that make Sarah feel? Why? How did their friendship make Gema feel? Why?
6. Although they looked different and communicated differently, did Sarah and Gema experience the same feelings? How?

How Can We Change?

1. Did this story help you change how you might think about or treat someone who looks different from you? Why?
2. Does this story help you think differently about how to treat someone who is blind, or deaf, or has different physical and mental abilities than you?
3. Would you consider learning something new or standing up for someone who is different?
4. What does this story teach us about our ability to make connections with those who do not communicate like us either because of different languages or inability to speak or hear?

Deeper Look: Define and Discuss

- Immigrant
- Communication (verbal, physical, emotional)
- Respect
- Relationship
- Diversity
- Dignity
- Emotional Connection
- Belonging
- Leadership
- Overcoming Physical and Mental Differences
- Spoken Language and Language of the Heart