



Different perspectives influence the information we give and receive in our day-to-day lives. This game helps students understand how perspectives affect accounts of the same event while practicing their oral presentation and debate skills.

Focus Skills: Imagination, Storytelling, Speaking

Grades: 6+

MATERIALS: Hat or bowl, event cards with detailed, varied perspectives

STEP 1. Give students a description of an event--basic facts will do! This event can be current or historical, real or imagined.

STEP 2. Have students pick a perspective out of a hat. For more general events (protests, rallies), think about social identifiers that might influence someone's perception of the event, such as gender, race, class, age, or religion. For specific events (the Boston Massacre or the Charlottesville riots), feel free to assign students specific people.

STEP 3. Give students time to consider how someone with their perspective would tell the story of the event. Remind them that they will be speaking in first person!

STEP 4.

- Standard guessing game: Split students into groups and have them tell the story of the event from their perspective, with the rest of the group guessing who they are representing.
- Investigative journalism: Have students act as journalists interviewing people about the event and construct what they think is the narrative after speaking with several different people.

STEP 5. Debrief and share! Discuss with students how people's perspectives influence the information they provide. Make clear to students that bias is inherent in all sources of information, but that doesn't mean we can't learn from those sources--we just have to listen to lots of different perspectives, think, and decide for ourselves!

