



My Culture, Your Culture

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Intercultural Understanding

WHAT IS CULTURE

A culture is the shared way of life of a group of people that is passed down from generation to generation. People from the same culture usually think and behave in similar ways.

There are many different cultures in the world. Most people from the same culture have the same language and customs.



Most people from the same culture:

- eat similar food
- wear similar clothes
- live in similar homes
- relax, worship, and celebrate in similar ways
- use the same currency and value similar things.



Everybody is part of a culture. Some cultures are similar to other cultures. Some cultures are very different from other cultures. However, all cultures are important and should be valued.



FACT BOX

Walk in another's shoes

Exploring new cultures can be an opportunity to 'walk in another's shoes'. This means to look at life from another person's point of view and imagine being them.



I wonder how a person from a different culture would see my culture.

I wonder what my culture has in common with other cultures.

I wonder how I can help God promote understanding between cultures.

A PERSON'S IDENTITY

A person's identity is shaped by their culture. People learn how to think, communicate, and behave by being with others from their culture. Most young children learn about their culture from their families. As they grow older, they learn from other people, including friends, schoolmates, teachers, coaches, and religious leaders.

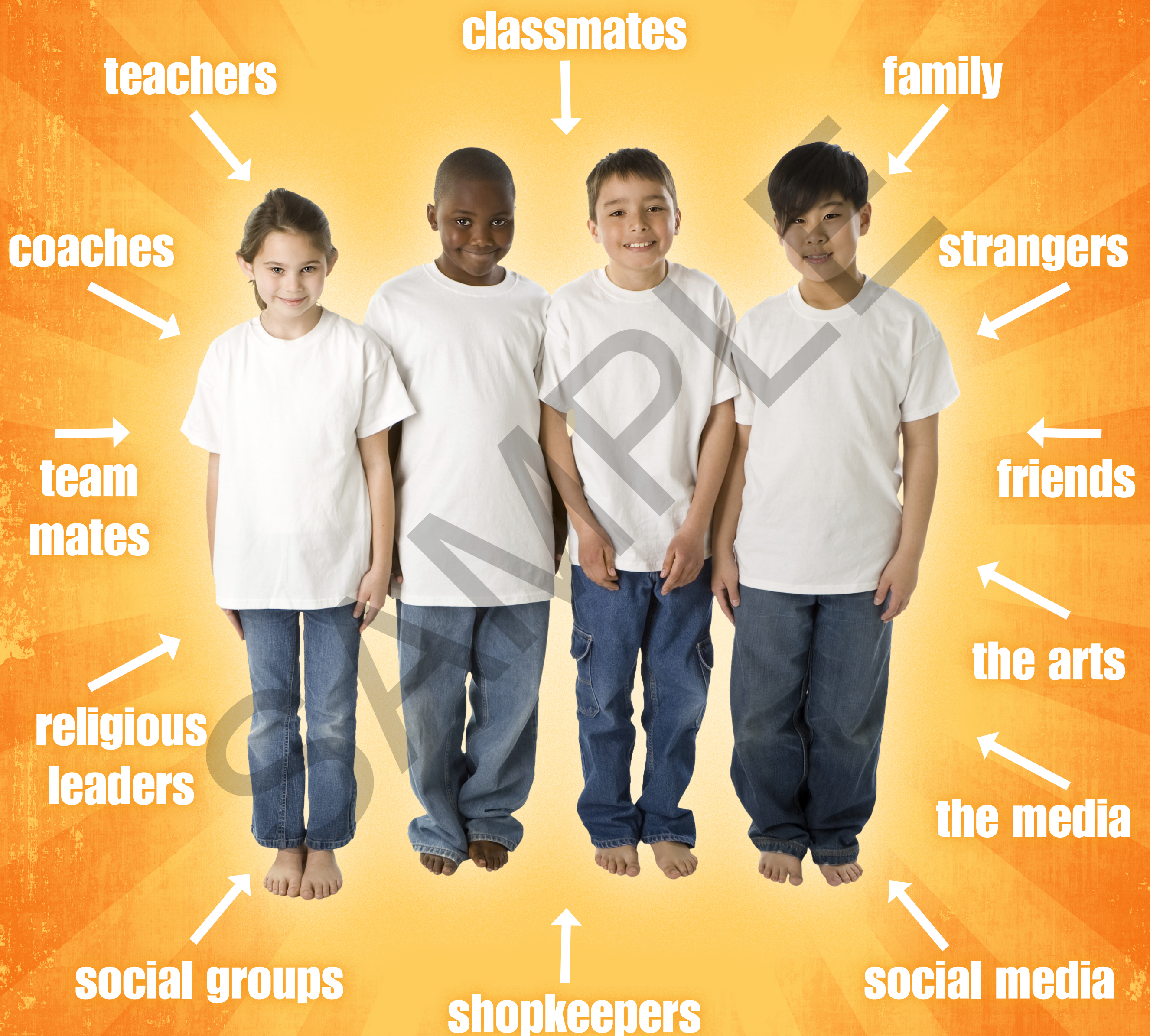


People can also learn about their culture from the arts, the media, and the Internet. People can learn a lot from reading books and articles, watching television and movies, looking at paintings and photographs, and so on. By learning about their culture, a person learns many ideas, skills, customs, and behaviours. Most importantly, a person learns how to be a part of their culture.



ENTITY

Children learn about their culture in many ways



I wonder what it would be like to grow up in a different culture.

I wonder how I can teach younger children about our culture.

I wonder what well-known stories are part of my culture's history.

I wonder what it was like growing up in Jesus' time.

GLOSSARY

Bible The Christian holy book or the Jewish holy book (they are not the same book).

commemorate To honour the memory of.

culture The shared way of life of a group of people.

currency Kind of money.

exclude To not include.

identity A person's sense of who they are. Everybody's identity is unique.

Koran The holy book of Islam that Muslims follow.

plough A farming tool with a blade that is used for digging and turning soil.

prayer wheel A small revolving cylinder containing prayers.

purity To have a clean body and pure mind.

refugee camp A camp that is set up to house refugees.

refugees People who have fled their country and cannot return because it is not safe to do so.

Torah A part of the Jewish Bible.

vegetarian Does not contain any meat or fish.

worship To respect and honour God or a sacred person.



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