a guide to cultural understanding

Keep an open mind

Sometimes, we like to believe things about other people's cultures even though they might not be true.

This might be because we read about their culture in a book or saw it in a TV show, but what we see in books or on TV don't represent everything!

Try to listen to what others have to say before making any guesses or assumptions.

Ask questions

It's okay to ask questions when you don't understand something, but make sure you phrase your questions carefully so they don't come across as rude or demanding!

Questions are great for helping you understand more about someone else's culture!

Think in someone else's shoes

Before asking or saying something, consider:

How would I feel if someone said that to me?

Make an effort to listen

Actively try to understand and get to know others' cultures and experiences!

In a place where most people are of the same culture, make an effort to get to know people from other backgrounds.

We find it easy to share our own experiences, but it is even more important to listen to others. It is important to listen more and judge less.

It's OK to be wrong

It's human to make mistakes! If someone tells you **"you shouldn't have said that"**, don't try to explain your reasons or make up an excuse.

Understand where you went wrong and remember not to make the same mistake next time!

Treat others as equals

Even if someone has a different skin colour or cultural background as you, they are still human and so are you.

Treat others as equals, and treat them the way you want them to treat you!

Answer questions nicely

Others may want to know about your culture as well! If they ask you questions, answer them nicely and don't think that others already know everything about your cultural background.

Never stop learning!

Look for things on the internet, read books and watch videos! You can never learn too much.

It is even better if you can directly learn from another person by interacting with them! Make a pen pal and share your experiences with each other.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY