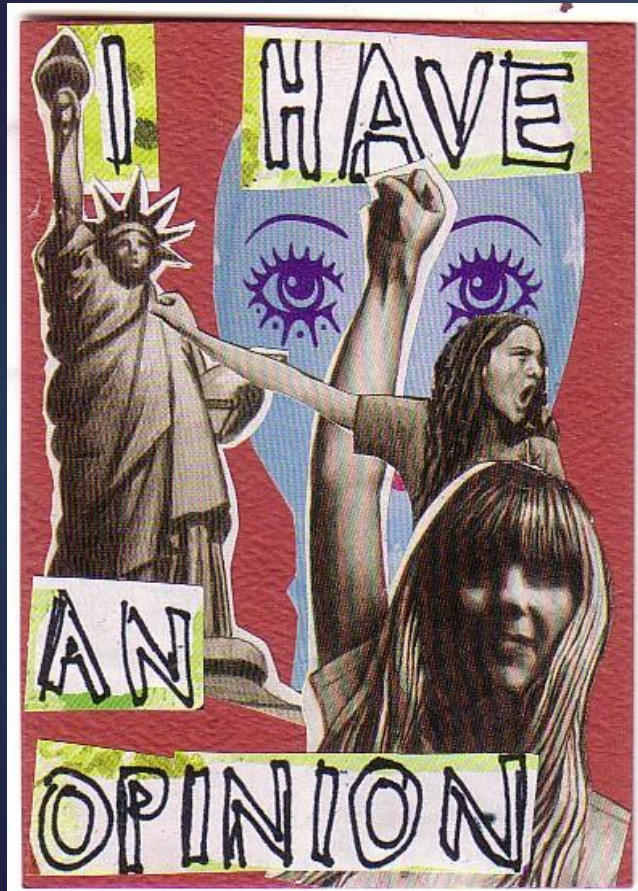


Habit 6: Synergize! ~ work together to achieve more



The “High Way”

**Journal Entry
or
Discussion
Starter:**



“I have never in my life
learned anything from any
man who agreed with me.”

~Dudley Field Malone

How can having someone
disagree with you help you
learn? Explain your thoughts.

How does everyone being
different make things
harder?

How can you overcome
these challenges? Would
it be easier if everyone
had the same personality,
looks, talents and
interests?



3 Possible Approaches to Diversity:

- ▶ Level 1: Shun diversity
 - ▶ Afraid of diversity
 - ▶ Enjoy ridiculing those who are different
 - ▶ Join anti-groups because there is strength in numbers
- ▶ Level 2: Tolerate diversity
 - ▶ Believe everyone has the right to be different, but don't embrace diversity
 - ▶ Think: You keep to yourself and I'll keep to myself.
 - ▶ See differences as hurdles, not as potential strengths
- ▶ Level 3: Celebrate diversity
 - ▶ Learned that two people who think differently can achieve more
 - ▶ Value differences as an advantage
 - ▶ Doesn't mean you necessary agree with those differences (Rap music vs. Rock music, etc.) but you value them.

Synergy T-chart

- ▶ It is...
 - ▶ Celebrating differences
 - ▶ Teamwork
 - ▶ Open-mindedness
 - ▶ Finding new and better ways



Synergy T-chart (con'd)



- ▶ It is not
 - ▶ Just tolerating differences
 - ▶ Working independently
 - ▶ Thinking you're always right
 - ▶ Compromise

The giant Redwoods, or sequoia trees, can reach heights of over 300 ft. They grow in clumps and share a vast array of intermingled roots. Without each other, they would blow over in a storm.



Photo source: wall.alphacoders.com

Synergy is Everywhere

► You have been a part of synergy in many forms

- Nature
- Teams
- Group Projects
- Band
- Orchestra



So what is diversity?



Culture/Heritage

Family

Likes/Dislikes

Attitude

Religion

YOU!

Talents

Beliefs

Friends

Choices

Experiences

Knowledge

We are all a minority of one...

► Take the Fruit Quiz!

► Helpful Definitions:

Analytical: using analysis or logical reasoning

Inquisitive: curious, likes to ask questions

Practical: to be useful in real circumstances, doable

Systematic: doing something according to a plan or method

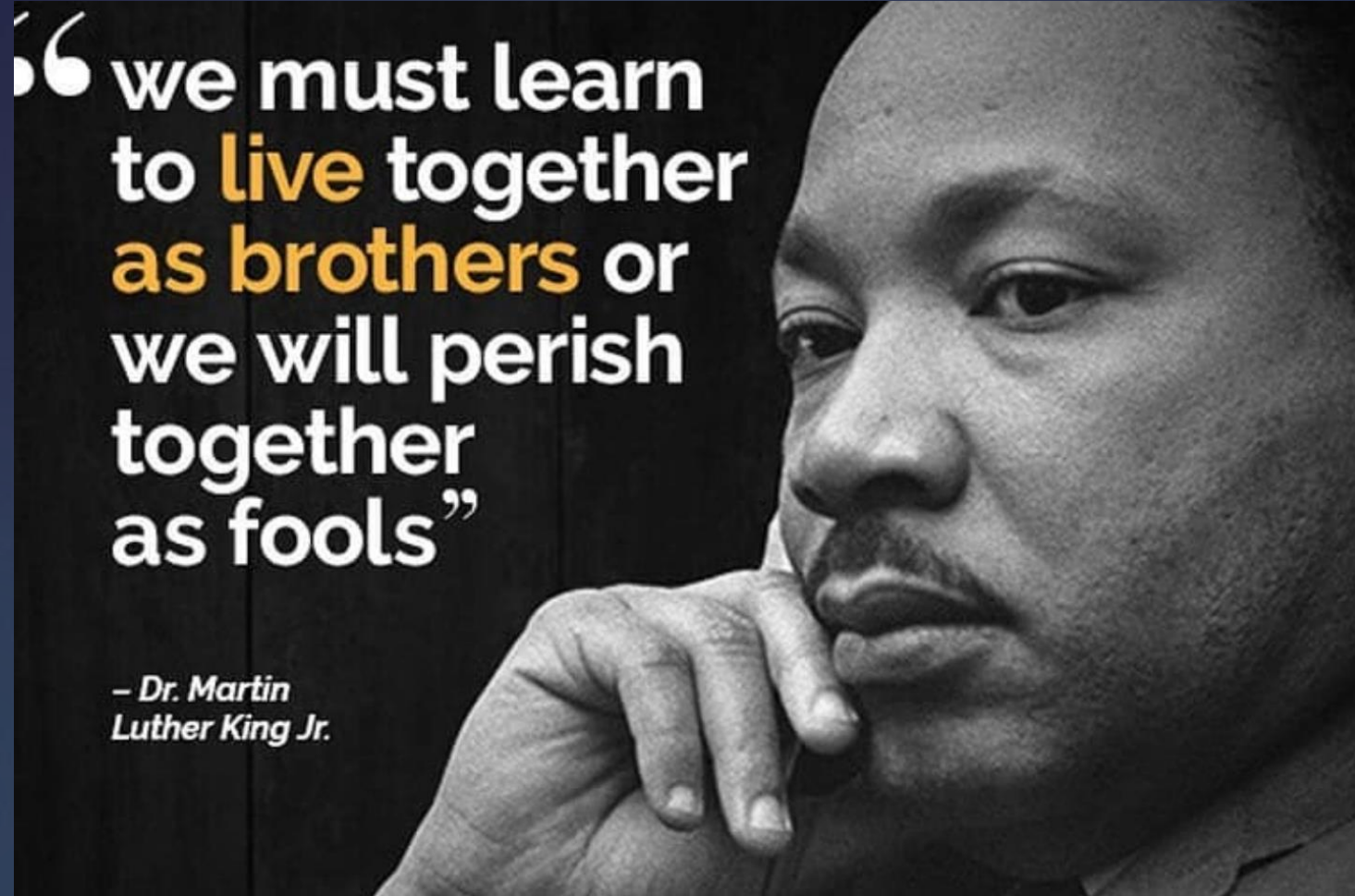
Originate: creating or initiating something from the beginning

Reflection:

- ▶ What fruit were you? (Find your corner)
- ▶ Which fruit was the best?
- ▶ What if we were all the same?
- ▶ We all have strengths and weaknesses. No one is better or worse, just different
- ▶ Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZrXGnwhZ58c>

We are a minority of one

- ▶ We learn differently
 - ▶ One way isn't better than another, only different
- ▶ We see differently
 - ▶ Look at picture on page 186- what do you see
 - ▶ Look at picture on page 194-what do you see
 - ▶ Look at picture on page 200 then look back on page 194-do you see
 - ▶ We look at life from different paradigms



What is keeping you from “living as brothers?”

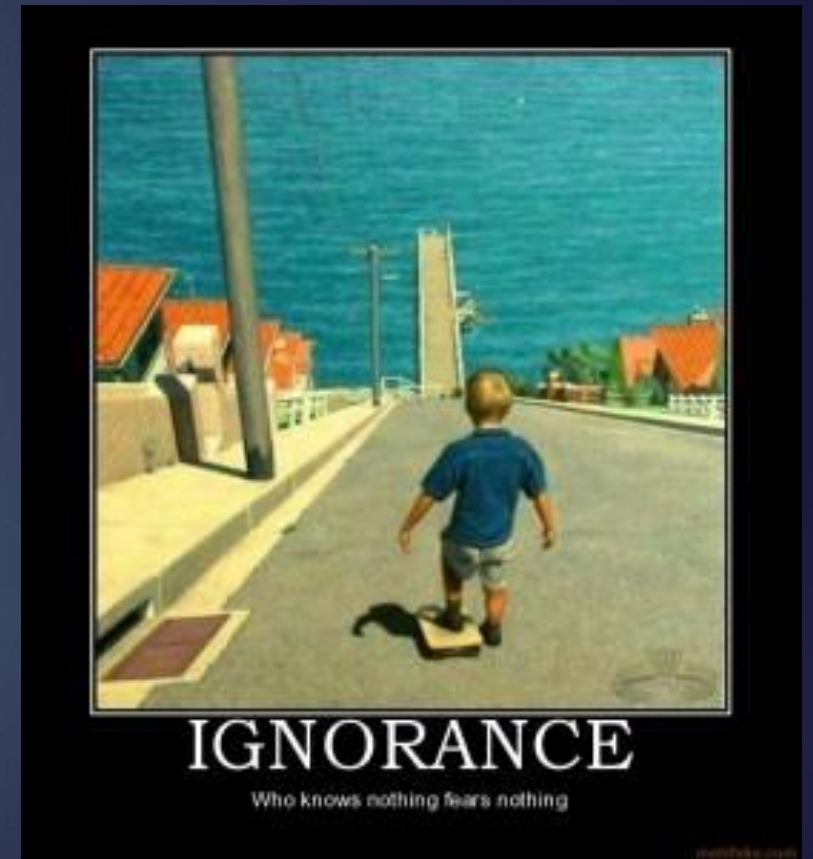
Roadblocks to Celebrating Differences

- ▶ Three major roadblocks are ignorance, cliques and prejudice



Ignorance-lack of knowledge or education or awareness

- ▶ You don't know what other people believe, how they feel, or what they have been through.
- ▶ i.e. Crystal's story on p. 190



Cliques

-small group of people with shared interests that don't readily allow others to join them

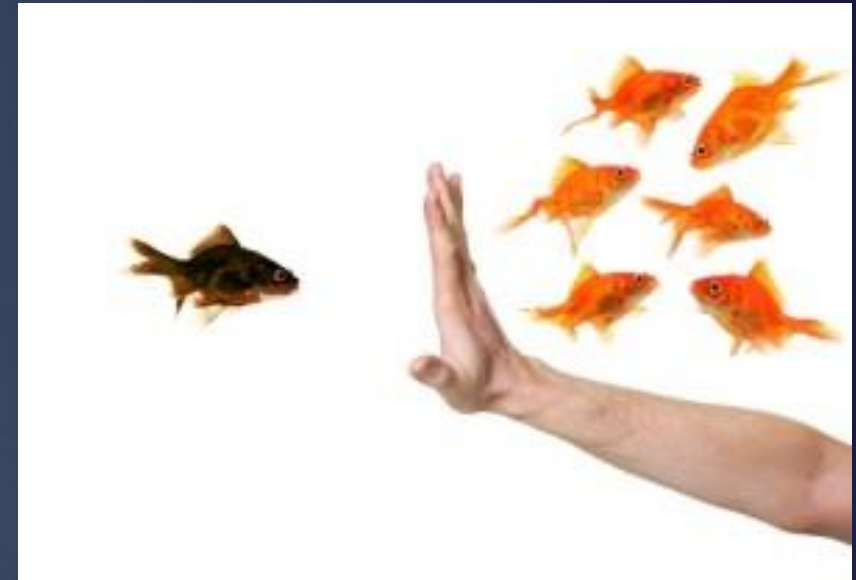
- ▶ Nothing wrong with being with people you are comfortable, but cliques exclude people that aren't just like you
- ▶ Breaking into a clique isn't hard! You just lose your identity and assimilate and suffer superiority complexes.
 - ▶ "The Plastics" in Mean Girls



Prejudice

-preconceived opinion that is not based on reason or actual experience

- ▶ Although we are created equally, we're not treated equally
- ▶ Have you ever been pre-judged based on skin color, your clothes, your accent, where you live?
- ▶ Prejudices are learned (which means they can be unlearned!)
- ▶ "The Cold Within" p. 192



George H.W. Bush Eulogy

- ▶ His friend, Sen. Alan Simpson, said at his funeral that the President never hated anyone. In his eulogy to the President, he stated that the President, “knew what his mother and my mother always knew:

...Hatred corrodes the container it's carried in.”

- ▶ Within your groups, talk about what you think this quote means.

Stick up for Diversity

- ▶ Be an upstander vs. a bystander
 - ▶ Watch out for the moments where you need to be courageous, when you can stop the bullying of another person right in its tracks.
 - ▶ This might be online or in person.
- ▶ Be the person who leads by example, not just sits quietly and pretends they don't see. Don't be guilty by association.
- ▶ If you know it's wrong, say something.

Finding the “High” Way

- ▶ Compromise $1 + 1 = 1 \frac{1}{2}$
- ▶ Cooperation $1 + 1 = 2$
- ▶ Synergy is $1 + 1 = 3$
 - ▶ The WHOLE is greater than the sum of its parts
 - ▶ Creative cooperation
 - ▶ Great Compromise

Synergy Action Plan

Define the Problem	Make sure you understand the problem or task.
Their Way	Try to understand everyone's ideas. Listen carefully.
My Way	Seek to be understood. Share your ideas.
Brainstorm	Be creative. Everyone create new ideas.
High Way	Find best solution.

Synergy Action Plan

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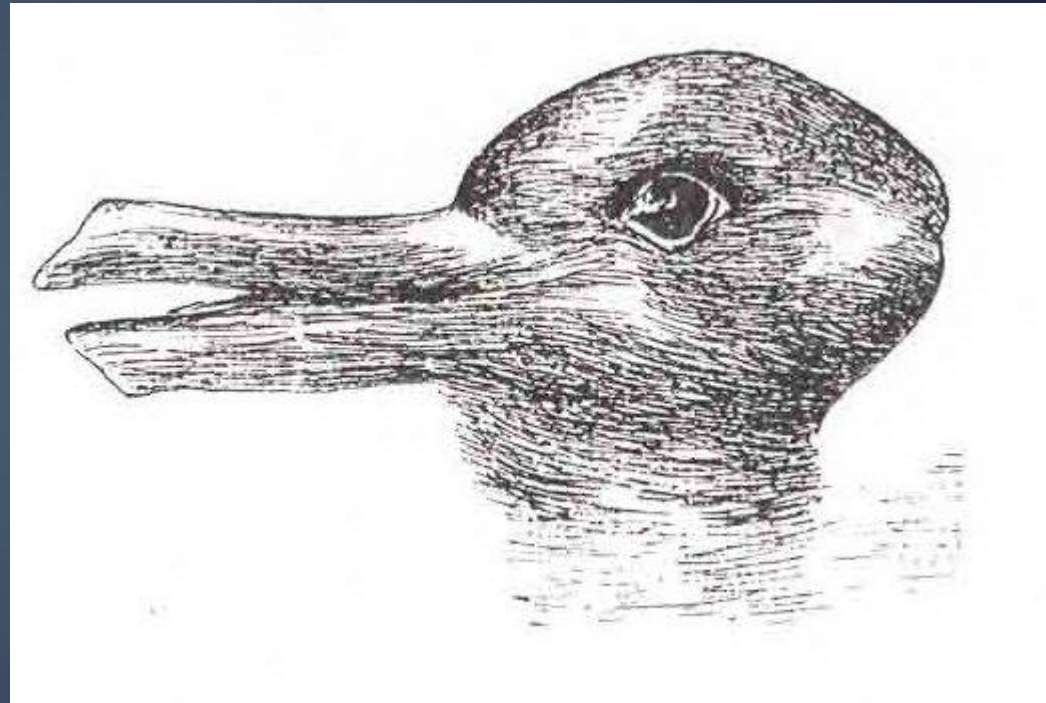
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We all see differently:



Synergy Examples

- ▶ Madagascar Penguins
- ▶ Minions

A-B Partner Teach

- ▶ Stand up!
- ▶ With a shoulder partner, review each step of the synergy action plan.
- ▶ Partner A will start with step one and Partner B will continue and you will go back and forth.
- ▶ Do this again with Partner B starting.

We are diversity!

If you could tell your classmates anything about you (your culture, religion, your home situation, a disability you may have, etc.), what would you want them to know?

What would you hope they would understand about you in order to find common ground?

On a scrap of paper, tell your classmates about yourself using the starter, "I want my classmates to know..."

We are diversity!



Challenge!

- ▶ Make 3 compliments each day for 21 days.
- ▶ You can start out with people you know, but try to make at least one of those compliments to someone you don't know.
- ▶ See how this starts to spread and make others feel good about themselves and hopefully, they will do the same.