



The Ship of Tolerance is an international art project created by Ilya and Emilia Kabakov, two of the most celebrated artists of their generation and widely known for their large-scale installations. The Ship of Tolerance is dedicated to educating and connecting children from different continents, cultures, and identities through the universal language of art.

The Ship of Tolerance was first launched in Egypt in 2005 and has subsequently been created in Venice, San Moritz, Sharjah, Miami, Havana, Moscow, New York, Zug, Rome and Rostock. The project was awarded the prestigious Cartier Prize for the Best Art Project of the year in 2010.

In September 2019, as part of Totally Thames, The Ship of Tolerance will be unveiled on the River Thames in London.

The Ship of Tolerance offers an educational programme for primary school children designed to discuss tolerance and diversity among cultures, races and ideas. We are inviting schools to participate in this, and to express their interest to be part of this amazing art installation.

This classroom activity plan has been designed by Clara Dublanc to be used in the classroom with children aged 8 to 12 years old to engage with the project and should take around an hour.

WARM UP EXERCISES:

Using active movement, physical interaction and play as a first step to welcome, share and build a relationship of trust and confidence between everyone in the room. These two exercises need lots of room and approx. 5 minutes each.

Let's Move

1. Start by getting all the students in a circle and asking the group for a volunteer willing to go first
2. Ask the first person to make a gesture that is very small and almost imperceptible.
3. Then the person to the left will need to make the same gesture but make it a bit bigger, and so on around the circle, making the gesture bigger every time.
4. Go around the entire circle until the gesture is so big that it doesn't fit in the room! Then make it smaller until it disappears.

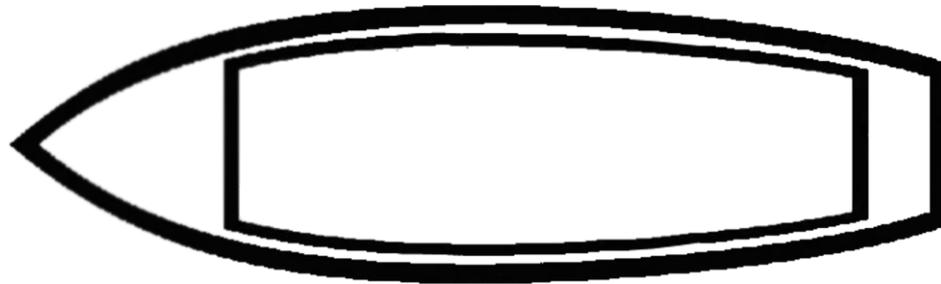
Let's Dance

1. Again start this exercise in a circle and explain that it will involve sharing dance moves.
2. The first person gifts a dance move that makes them happy to the person on the left.
3. The person receiving the gift needs to make the same dance move and turn it into their own and gift it to the next person.
4. Let the dance moves move around the entire circle.

ACTIVITY 1: HUMAN BINGO

This activity is designed to highlight how everyone is different and have lived different lives but that at the same time, we share many things together. By putting together characteristics relating to nationality, culture, family and other characteristics relating to interests and activities, we show that everything we do and where we come from make part of who we are and connects us with others. It would be good idea to get a prize for part 1 of activity.

1. Using chalk or tape draw/mark out on the floor the shape of a ship allowing as much space as possible in the room as the students will be asked to step into the shape.



2. Print and hand out the Human Bingo page overleaf for each one of your students
3. Read through the questions with the students and explain that they will be given 10 minutes to speak to as many of their classmates to find answers to the questions on the sheet. The aim of the exercise is to complete four boxes in a row either horizontal, vertical or diagonal and then say BINGO! Students will need to write down their classmates name and answer in each question box.
4. After 10 minutes end the activity and hand out prize/s.
5. Gather everyone in a circle around the boat for part 2 of this activity.
6. Read out one question at a time from the Human Bingo activity sheet, asking students that answer 'YES' to that question to step into the ship. Work through all the questions.

Questions:

- Who has grandparents that came from another country?
 - Who speaks two languages?
 - Who has met someone famous?
 - Who has watched a film in the last month?
 - Who has a best friend not in this classroom?
 - Who has ever organised a party for 10 or more people?
 - Who has family living abroad?
 - Who likes animals?
 - Who has climbed a mountain?
 - Who has stepparents?
 - Who likes to dance?
 - Who has travelled on a train, a bus and a bicycle this week?
 - Who has siblings?
 - Who has been to a place by the sea in the last month?
 - Who was born abroad?
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HUMAN BINGO

Who has grandparents that are from another country (which one?)	Who speaks 2 languages or more (write down which languages?)	Who has met someone famous (write down their name)?	Who has watched a film in the last month (write the name of the film)?
Who has a best friend not in this classroom?	Who has ever organised a party for 10 or more people?	Who has family living abroad (where)?	Who likes animals (list which ones)?
Who has climbed a mountain (which one)?	Who has step parents?	Who likes to dance?	Who has travelled on a train, a bus and a bicycle this week?
Who likes music?	Who was born abroad (where)?	Who has been to a place by the sea in the last month?	Who has siblings?

ACTIVITY 2: LET'S GO ON A JOURNEY

This activity helps students imagine what refugees might go through in terms of hopes and fears. It provides insight on how the students themselves can become more welcoming to newcomers.

“also because at night... at each word that one man says -- such as "wolf", "sister", "hidden treasure", "battle", "scabies", "lovers" -- the others tell, each one, his tale of wolves, sisters, treasures, scabies, lovers, battles. And you know that in the long journey ahead of you, when to keep awake ... you start summoning up your memories one by one, your wolf will have become another wolf, your sister a different sister, your battle other battles” - Euphemia, Invisible Cities, Italo Calvino.

1. Ask students to imagine that they need to leave home and go on a journey by themselves. They don't know when they will be back and when they will see their family and friends again. Now ask them to think about what they would take with them?
2. Give each student 3 pieces of red paper. One each piece, they will need to draw and/or write something that they would take with them: e.g. a picture of their family, hope, a mobile phone, their pillow, their favourite toy. Anything they want!
3. Allowing 10 minutes for this activity ask students to put their paper inside the ship on the floor.
4. Get the class to sit in a circle around the ship and let the journey begin. Ask each student to speak to the person on the right and tell them about one of the drawings and what it means to them. After having listened to each other's story, exchange drawings. Allow 5 minutes
5. Now get your students to sit inside the ship and imagine that they are arriving to a place that they don't know.

Ask them to think about the following:

- *What would they be afraid of?*
- *What would they like to find there?*
- *How would they like their new school to be?*
- *How would they like to be welcomed?*

6. Give each student a piece of green paper and ask them to write/draw their answers and then place them outside the boat and step out of it. Allow 10 minutes for this.

WATCH & WRAP-UP

End the session with watching this short film on The Ship of Tolerance project.



If your school is interested in participating in The Ship of Tolerance project, please contact: Kate Forde, Head of Education & Engagement on [email here](#).

[The Ship of Tolerance](#) is brought to London in September 2019 by Art, Action, Change as part of Totally Thames 2019.



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