

Thinking Day or Friendship Ceremony

You'll need: 8 candles (all shapes, colors and sizes)

FIRST CANDLE: Stars that shine together form a galaxy. Flowers that grow together create a garden. Buildings that stand together begin a city. People who work together make a difference. This is what valuing differences is all about. I light this candle for valuing differences.

SECOND CANDLE: I light this candle in friendship for all of the people who are older or younger, taller or smaller, richer or poorer than I.

THIRD CANDLE: I light this candle in friendship for all people who worship differently than I.

FOURTH CANDLE: I light this candle in friendship for all people of a different nationality or ethnicity than I.

FIFTH CANDLE: I light this candle in friendship for all people who are of a different color than I.

SIXTH CANDLE: I light this candle in friendship for all people who come from other countries than I.

SEVENTH CANDLE: I light this candle in friendship for all people who don't run, walk, see, hear, or learn the same as I.

EIGHTH CANDLE: I light this candle for me, for I am unique and special. Watch the flames closely. Please notice the light from each candle is the same as the others even though the outside of each is different. So, too, are all of us in the world. We wear different clothes, speak different languages, follow different religions or beliefs, like different foods and sing different songs. And yet, we all belong to the same human race. Inside we are all the same. We all wish to be recognized, we all wish to be called by name, we all wish to be loved, we all wish for friends and we all wish for peace. In the spirit of International understanding, we pledge ourselves to world friendship. In the spirit of International understanding, we pledge ourselves to peacemaking. Look wide! and, when you think you are looking wide, look wider still!

In the spirit of International understanding, we pledge ourselves to accept the challenge to look wider still.

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