

Different, But Like Me

Lora Rozler



Two eyes, two ears
To hear, to see
Your skin, your voice
Different, but like me.



Two hands, two legs
They move with glee
Your gifts, your talents
Different, but like me.



All sorts of thoughts
That roam so free
Your joys, your fears
Different, but like me.



One heart, one life
To love and be
Your dreams, your wishes
Different, but like me.

Name: _____

Different, But Like Me

Fill in the missing lines.

Two eyes, _____ ears

To hear, to _____

Your skin, your voice

Different, but like _____.

Two hands, two legs

They move _____ glee

Your gifts, your talents

Different, but _____ me.

All sorts of thoughts

That roam _____ free

Your joys, your fears

Different, _____ like me.

_____ heart, one life

To love and be

Your dreams, _____ wishes

Different, but like me.

Name: _____

Different, But Like Me

How are people different on the outside?

What do people have in common?

Student Activity Guide: *Different, But Like Me*

Theme: Empathy, Diversity, and Shared Humanity

Target Grades: K–3 | **Estimated Time:** 45 Minutes

Part 1: The "Circle Time" Discussion

"Diversity isn't just something to notice—it's the beautiful mosaic that connects us all. When we look with our eyes, we see our differences. When we look with our hearts, we see our similarities." Lora Rozler

Before starting the activities, use these prompts to help students "map" the poem's themes.

- **Observation (The Outside):** "Which part of the poem was about your **outside**? Which part was about your **inside**? Let's touch our ears—is that outside or inside? Now think of a secret dream—where does that live?"
 - **Empathy (The Connection):** "If you meet someone who looks very different from you, what is one thing you now know you probably have in common? (e.g., *We both have a heart; we both have dreams.*)"
 - **Unity (The Mosaic):** "If the whole world was exactly the same and everyone had the same voice, would that be more fun? Or would it be like a coloring book with only one crayon?"
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Part 2: Classroom Activities

1. The "Selfie" Sketch (Self-Reflection)

- **Objective:** To celebrate individual traits and internal thoughts.
- **The Task:** Using a face template, have students look in a mirror to draw their "outside" (eyes, hair, skin).
- **The Twist:** Draw a **thought bubble** above the head. Inside, use vibrant colors to draw a "wild and free" dream or thought.

2. The "Heart-to-Heart" Sort (Internal Similarities)

- **Objective:** To understand that "Joys and Fears" are universal.
- **The Setup:** Use two jars—one labeled **Joys** (with a sun) and one **Fears** (with a cloud).
- **The Reveal:** Students anonymously submit one joy and one fear. Read them aloud to show how many students share the same feelings, regardless of how they look on the outside.

3. The "Same But Different" Venn Diagram

- **Objective:** To practice peer-to-peer connection and categorization.
 - **The Task:** In pairs, students fill out a Venn diagram.
 - **Outer Circles:** "Different" traits (e.g., hair color, favorite hobbies).
 - **The Center:** "Same" traits (e.g., "We both have two legs," "We both feel brave on the playground").
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Part 3: Bridging the Lesson to Home

Cut and paste this note to send home with students.

A Note for Families: *Different, But Like Me*

Dear Families, Today, our class explored the poem "**Different, But Like Me**" by **Lora Rozler**. We learned that while our "outside" features are unique, our "inside" hearts share the same language of joys, fears, and dreams.

Continue the Conversation:

- "What is something beautiful about how you look on the outside?"
- "What is a 'wild and free' dream you have on the inside?"
- "Can you think of one thing that makes you different from your friend, and one thing that makes you exactly like them?"