

Seeing You Seeing Me

An activity of Stories of Casual Racism

In Singapore, we have people of different ethnic, religious, and cultural backgrounds living, studying, working and playing together. While kids spend time together at school or other common spaces, they may not visit each other's homes as often. Do this activity to explore what it may be like for someone visiting your home for the first time. Try to imagine what your visitor might see as an outsider to your home. This can help you to appreciate the different standpoints of people around you.

- 1) Describe what your home is like by jotting down points here →.

My Family

Things We Like to Do at Home	Food We Usually Eat
Familiar Sights, Sounds and Smells	Things I Love About My Home
On Special Occasions	

2) Imagine you have a friend of another race visiting your home for the first time. Write about his/her visit to your home in a journal entry of around 150 words.

You may choose to include the following in your writing.

- Write from the point of view of your friend.
- Use the first-person narrative.
- Include what he/she may find unique about your home.
- Describe what made him feel welcomed.
- Explain why he enjoyed his time at your home.

Dear Diary,

4) Imagine the box below is a window your visiting friend is looking into from outside your home. Draw what your visitor would see on a typical day.

*A view through the window
My visitor's first glimpse of my home*

5) Think about the house above as a community you are not familiar with. Each of us has a unique view of the world around us. What you see in your home is different from what a first-time visitor may see through a window. And, that visitor's perception of your home is likely to change a little when he or she steps into your home and spends time with you.

The same is true of ethnic communities as well. Don't stop at looking through the window for an outsider's view of a friend's community. Look for opportunities to step in so that you get a better understanding of that world.