

ACTIVITY 28

Exploring Identity

Final Reflection

Purpose: Review the overarching themes, questions, journal responses, and work from this section of *Community Matters* and reflect on new understanding and lingering questions.

APPROXIMATE TIME:
30 minutes

MATERIALS: NONE

ADVISOR NOTES:

1. Create Time and Space for Reflection

Advisees will repeat this activity at the end of each section of *Community Matters*. Providing them with the time and space to reflect on their learning, growth, and lingering questions about the central themes from the section allows them to synthesize the material in meaningful ways before being introduced to new themes and concepts.

2. Choose a Discussion Format

Before the advisory meeting, decide how you would like the group to engage in the final discussion. You might start with small groups and then move into a larger circle, or you might try the **Socratic Seminar** or **Fishbowl** teaching strategy. Visit facinghistory.org/advisory-media to learn about these teaching strategies.

PROCEDURE:

1. Reflect on Individual Identity

- Tell advisees that for this reflection, they will need their journals and materials from this section. Advisees should first review their journals, handouts, and writing from this section of the advisory program and then do the following:
 - Place a star by two or three places where you arrived at a new insight or understanding of your identity, the factors that can influence identity, or another aspect of identity.
 - Place a question mark by one or two places that raise questions for you about identity or where you made note of something that you feel like you need to keep exploring in order to understand identity more fully.
- Then ask advisees to spend some time writing a new journal entry in which they elaborate on a new understanding and/or a lingering question. If you feel like they would benefit from some structure, invite them to respond to one of the following questions:

- What new insights and understanding do you have about the theme of identity? What questions do you still have?
- I used to think _____ about identity, but now I think _____.

2. Reflect on Advisees' Understanding of Identity in a Group Discussion

- In small groups and then in a circle or using the **Socratic Seminar** or **Fishbowl** teaching strategy, ask advisees to discuss their journal responses (visit facinghistory.org/advisory-media to learn about these teaching strategies).
- You might record the questions that advisees still have on chart paper to refer to later in the year as they continue to explore identity through the lens of membership and belonging, ostracism and bullying, and civic participation.