



Fruitopia: A Simulation for Peace and Pluralism

Share your answers and see what others came up with in the comments section at the bottom of our session's page!

Step 1: Create your Fruit Identity

If you were a fruit, what type of fruit would you be?

Considering the unique qualities of this particular fruit, what kinds of beliefs and ideas would you have about yourself, your community, and the world around you?

How would you express your identity? Imagine the clothing you would wear, the holidays you would celebrate, and even the songs you would sing or the food you would eat.

Step 2: Threats to Your Community

Now, consider a situation where your fruit community – because of its unique characteristics and beliefs – is being attacked. Your entire community is affected and you find yourself in a situation where life is unbearable. What could someone do that would make you feel this way?

When someone attacks the core of who you are and what makes you unique as a fruit, how does it make you feel?

And if that were to happen to you, what would your initial reaction or response be? Would you fight back, try to flee, or do something else?



Step 4: Overcoming Bias, Fears, and Misconceptions

You decided to leave your homeland and have arrived on Fruitopia. As you explore the island, you realize that other fruit who faced attacks have also fled there, including fruit that represent the communities that attacked you back home. What is your greatest fear of these other fruit?

At first, the fruit consider separating themselves from one another but that doesn't work because every fruit has access to different resources. You need certain resources to support yourself, your family and your community. But when the fruits — or people — in power do not understand your values or your needs, it is difficult to rebuild and survive in this new land. What ideas do you have about others or do you think they have about you — including fears, biases or misconceptions — that could encourage tension, competition, intolerance or discrimination among the fruit?

Step 5: Creating New Rules for the Island

Pluralism requires an environment in which different groups can actively express their opinions and have a voice in how they are governed. What rights do you think are needed in Fruitopia to be able to live in dignity and freedom with others?

Step 6: Reflection

Now, take a moment to relate your experience in Fruitopia to “real life” in your community.