




How have you changed your mind?

Reflecting on our experiences

A low-angle, upward-looking photograph of a person's hands resting on a tree trunk. The hands are positioned on either side of the trunk, with fingers spread. The tree trunk is dark and textured. The background is a bright, slightly blurred sky with many tree branches and leaves, creating a bokeh effect. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

Feeling Overwhelmed?

(It's ok. Me, too).



2020 SDG Data Clocks

Where have we
improved?
(Let's celebrate!)

Where are we not
making progress?
(Let's get to work!)

Story Circles Methodology

A human-rights based approach to intercultural competencies focused on inclusive and sustainable development. It aims to:

- Facilitate positive peace by cultivating intercultural dialogue through the strengthening of interaction and understanding across differences.
- Foster greater self-awareness, openness, respect, reflexivity, empathy, increased awareness of others, and in the end, greater cultural humility.

Free download at <https://www.taylorfrancis.com>

ROUTLEDGE FOCUS

MANUAL FOR DEVELOPING INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCIES

Story Circles

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TESTED BY UNESCO IN DIVERSE REGIONS AND CULTURES





01

**BECOME
ACQUAINTED**

Briefly introduce yourself
(2 min or less)

02

**RESPOND TO
PROMPT**

Describe a personal life
experience that includes a
lesson learned. (3 min or less)

03

FLASHBACK

Participants share a
memorable part of your story.
(15 seconds)

STORY CIRCLE PHASES

1. Sit in a circle, and in two minutes or less, briefly introduce yourself by telling us your name, three words or phrases that describe your background, and why those words/phrases are important to you. No interruptions, comments, or questions. Just take turns introducing yourselves.
1. In three minutes or less, tell us about an experience you had contributing to the advancement of the SDGs in your inner circle, community, or world. No interruptions, comments, or questions.
1. Once all stories have been shared, then engage in the “flashback” time: Go back to the first story, and each person (other than the storyteller) shares a specific memorable part of the other’s story (in 15 seconds or less). Then go on to the second story, and so on, until “flashbacks” have been shared for all the stories told.
2. Once the “flashbacks” have been shared, together discuss some of the following questions in the remaining time: 1) What common themes did you hear from the stories? 2) What surprised you? 3) What challenged you in the stories you heard? 4) What did you learn about yourself through this experience?

KEY GUIDELINES



MAINTAIN CONFIDENTIALITY

Outside observers not permitted. Not should be repeated without the permission of the individual.



BE YOURSELF

Speak from your own experience only; Be genuine and authentic; Be comfortable in your own style (i.e., sit, stand, use gestures).



USE CLEAR COMMUNICATION

Simple, clear, and focused language that affords listening for understanding.



Whole Group Debrief and Conclusions

How will you take action?

Post a new idea on the board
gleaned from speaking with your
story circle group.

