

A Garden of Many Colors

Learning objective: To understand the importance of diversity and inclusion within a community.

Read the passage carefully, then answer the questions provided. Ensure your answers reflect an understanding of how different perspectives strengthen a group.

In the vibrant meadow of Sunny Patch, a group of friends gathered to plan the annual Summer Festival. Zara the zebra, known for her love of patterns, suggested painting colorful murals. Meanwhile, Max the monkey was busy calculating the budget, noting that they had exactly £45.50 to spend on decorations. Pip the caterpillar, who had just finished reading a book about global traditions, proposed that the festival should feature music and food from every corner of the world.

'If we only do things the way we have always done, we miss out on so much,' Pip explained. Nova the owl agreed, noting that just as a healthy forest needs many different types of trees to flourish, their community was stronger because of their varied talents and backgrounds. When everyone shared their ideas, they realized that their differences were not barriers, but bridges. By listening to one another and including every voice, they created a celebration that was more imaginative than anyone could have planned alone. In Sunny Patch, they learned that a diverse group is like a beautiful tapestry; every thread is vital to the final picture.

Word bank: diversity · inclusion · perspective · community · unique · collaboration

1. Identify two specific contributions made by characters in the text to help plan the festival. (2 marks) (2 marks)

2. How much money did Max calculate the group had for the festival decorations? (1 mark) (1 mark)

3. Why does Nova compare the community to a forest? (2 marks) (2 marks)

4. What does the author mean by the phrase 'their differences were not barriers, but bridges'? (2 marks) (2 marks)

5. Justify why inclusion is important in a group project. Do you think the festival would have been as successful if only one character planned it? Explain your answer. (3 marks) (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of the Sunny Patch festival featuring the characters. Include details that show how they are celebrating their different cultures and ideas together.



Extension challenge: Imagine a new character joins the group in Sunny Patch. Write a short paragraph describing one unique skill or perspective they bring and explain how this adds value to the existing group. Then, compare and contrast the benefits of working in a diverse team versus working alone.