

OSKAR AND THE CURIOUSLY COLORFUL CLASH!
BILLY'S LETTER TO BLUE HAT

Grade Levels: K – 5

“Billy, YOU'RE a Blue Hat! You've always been a Blue Hat! You have skills and abilities that are different than mine. I mean, sure, I'm still super awesome — but you're awesome too, in your own different and non-stereotypical way. And we need that. To win!”

–Oskar

Empathy: being able to understand another person's feelings

OBJECTIVES

- Students will use empathy skills as they identify with Billy as he writes a letter to his hometown.
- Students will refine interpersonal skills by creating their own letters to Blue Hat suggesting ways for them to appreciate people from Orange Hat.

MATERIALS

- Black or white board; chalk or dry erase markers
- Pencils, pens, markers, erasers, etc.
- Letter to Blue Hat (attached)

PROCEDURE

1. Share Billy's "Letter to Blue Hat" with students or have them read it aloud.
2. Ask students to identify and/or underline sentences in the letter where Billy empathizes with Oskar.
3. Discuss the importance of understanding where others come from and what it is like to be in a new place. Lead students through a discussion about the good traits Billy exemplifies. Discuss the ways he is demonstrating good behavior.
4. Ask students to imagine Oskar moving to Blue Hat, Texas. Have them fold their handouts in half and write a letter to Oskar explaining why he should be sensitive to newcomers and those who are different from him.

Dear Blue Hat,

I am sure you have all been worried sick about me. Have no fear. I'm on top of the world! I can finally say that I feel right at home here. I had to get used to a lot of things when I first arrived. Did you know that the town fruit isn't a blueberry? It's an orange! All the blue things that I'm used to in Blue Hat are orange here!

My new best friend is named Oskar. When we first met, Oskar didn't seem to like me. He said that we were just too different. That turned out to be wrong. Our differences ended up making us even better friends! Here is a list of the ways we are the same:

- He wears a cool hat like me.
- His mother is the mayor of a town like me.
- He has cool dance moves like me.

He had heard bad things about Blue Hats from TV, the internet, and his family. He realized these things were wrong. Then, we started to get along really well! I don't hold his feelings against him. I probably would have felt the same things if I'd grown up in Orange Hat.

I miss Blue hat a lot, but Orange Hat is just as great!

Until next time,

Billy Blue Hat

Write your own letter to Oskar below. Explain to him why it is important to treat newcomers and those who are different with kindness and respect. Feel free to use stories you have read or experiences from your life as examples.
