

Hi, my name is Silvia Perera and I am a Spanish teacher at Snider High School in Fort Wayne, Indiana. I'm really excited to share this Hispanic and Latinx lesson with you because this is one of the most common misconceptions that I run into inside the classroom and out. The goal of this lesson is to introduce students to basic vocabulary regarding the world that we live in, the languages that we speak, the Spanish speaking countries, but also to spark conversations and questions that won't necessarily be answered, but will give everyone some food for thought. As a Latina myself, I have always loved my culture. And I love sharing it with others. But it is important to remind ourselves that the best way to understand someone's culture, their traditions, and the difference that we have with them is by asking them. So, encourage your students to always ask when they don't know. My advice with this lesson is to go slow, to stay in Spanish, and to repeat and point as much as the students need. Let them take over. Let them guess what your next words are. Let them be engaged and guide you. Do not feel like you as the teacher have to have all the answers. Be comfortable saying, "I don't know, but let's find out together." And always embrace all cultures and opinions. We all come from different backgrounds. And even if we come from the same place, we all have different experiences. And that is what makes us unique, and that's what makes the world so diverse. I hope you enjoy the lesson.