

DR. B IN 3: RACE

An Animated Short



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3-LGTAD1KQI>



Dr. B answers 3 questions about race: What is race? Why are there different skin colors? What does the science tell us?

Quick Questions

1. What does the term "UV light" make you think of?
2. Have you ever been to or seen pictures of a place closer to the equator or further from the equator than where we are now? What did you notice?
3. Were you surprised that all the variation in humans is possible when we're only 0.1% genetically different?

DEEP DIVES

1. What have you been told about the effects of UV light on your body, if anything? Do you think about how much UV light you get when you go outside? Do you take any steps to moderate your exposure to UV light? Why or why not?
2. DNA technology has allowed us to better understand race and to learn that there is no biological basis for race. Can you think of another example of something where new scientific evidence changed what we thought about something?
3. How do you understand the concept of a "social construct"? What do you think about the word "fabricated"? Why does Dr. B. call race a "fabricated social construct"? Can you think of other conditions that may actually be a social construct?
4. Dr. B. mentions that while the concept of race is a social construct, it has led to tangible impacts on society. What impacts do you believe race has had on society? How might your own thoughts or behaviors contribute to or challenge those impacts?

Engaging in Science Discussions



Recommended Grade Level: Middle and High School

Objective: To engage in open-ended discussions about critical science topics. While leading these discussions, it is important to ensure that everyone is heard, and everyone is treating one another with respect. There is no “right answer” during these discussions, and it’s okay to respectfully disagree.

Additional Notes: We recommend having these discussions multiple times with the same group of participants. This provides the opportunity to explore different topics and improve one’s abilities to have successful conversations about STEM topics. Quick Questions are optional and are recommended to be used as warm-up questions.

Materials: TV or projector Paper and writing utensils

TIMELINE (30 – 40 MINUTES)

5 min	10 min	5 min	10 min	10 min <i>(optional)</i>
Intro + prompts	Watch segment	Think/write time	Share with partner	Small groups

Intro (5 min) Before starting, select one Deep Dive question. Tell the group you will be asking them a question that has no right or wrong answer. After they watch the clip, they will have time to think about and write their response. They will share their response with a partner or small group. Now share the question you selected.

If participants are new to these sorts of discussions, you may want to review the following concepts:

- When you are sharing your responses, provide reasoning and evidence. Reasoning is your own thinking behind your answer. Evidence is facts that support your answer, such as historical facts or scientific facts. You may also have experiences from your own life that support your answer.
- When listening to your classmates, ask questions. The purpose of questions is to better understand their thought process, not to challenge them. Some ways to frame questions are: “I didn’t understand X.” “Could you explain Y again?” “What do you mean by Z?”
- If someone asks you questions, provide clarification. Explain your reasoning and evidence. Remember that there are no right or wrong answers.

Watch the segment (10 minutes)

Think/write time (5 minutes): Participants write down their answers

Share with a partner (10 minutes): Pair up participants. Each person has 5 minutes to share their response and answer questions from their partner. Then switch so each partner gets a turn.

(Optional) Small groups (10 minutes): Put participants in groups of 4 for share-outs and conversations.

(Optional) Homework prompts: Expand your response into a report, picture, poem, essay, short story, song, or performance. Or, write your own discussion question for the group.