

IDAHOBIT

May 17th

International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia

This activity contributes to the following badges:



Thought about peer leadership?
Could one of your young people lead this activity for their Section?

We want everyone to feel safe, happy and included in Scouting. IDAHOBIT is celebrated in May but our work to challenge homophobia, biphobia and transphobia continues throughout the year. For Scouting, IDAHOBIT is the perfect opportunity to reflect on how we are creating a safe space for everybody in the movement, and celebrate the diversity we see in our communities

If you didn't see the activities we provided for LGBT History month earlier in the year, IDAHOBIT is the perfect opportunity to explore these, or try a different activity this time!

What Does LGBT Mean?

Ask your colony/pack – does anyone know what LGBT stands for?

- Lesbian – a woman who falls in love with another woman
- Gay – a man who falls in love with another man
- Bisexual – a person who can fall in love with either a man or a woman
- Transgender – Some people do not feel their bodies fit their gender e.g. boys sometimes feel they should have been born girls and girls sometimes feel they should have been born as boys. Some times they feel like neither and sometimes they feel like both

People who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender are part of a community of people known as the LGBT community. LGBT people exist in every area of Scotland, across all ages and communities. There are lots and lots of famous LGBT people, just a few of them are: Tom Daley (Olympic diver), Ian McKellan (Gandalf!), Mhairi Black (MP). Does anyone know any more?

Famous LGBT people in history include:

Alan Turing: a codebreaker during WWII, Alan deciphered the top secret German Enigma machine, allowing the Allies to defeat Adolf Hitler much sooner, saving millions of lives

Alexander the Great: one of ancient history's most famous conquerors, Alexander ruled a vast empire and spread Greek culture across Europe and Asia

Leonardo Da Vinci: genius, inventor and artist who painted the famous Mona Lisa

Sally Ride: America's first female astronaut, an engineer, physicist and role model for women in science. She flew the Space Shuttle twice

Activity (1hr)

We use the rainbow to represent LGBT diversity. Show your support for the LGBT community with these colourful rainbow suncatchers to brighten up your hall. You will need:

- Paper plates
 - Coloured crepe paper
 - Coloured paints
 - Scissors, glue, paintbrushes
1. Cut a paper plate in half. Starting from the outside in, paint the colours of the rainbow in bands until you reach the centre
 2. Flip the plate over. Cut the crepe paper into long ribbons and glue them to the back
 3. Cut all the hanging ribbons to the same length. You should have something like [this](#) to take home or hang in the hall!

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Why Do We Have A Rainbow Flag?

Ask your colony/pack – does anyone know what the rainbow flag stands for?

The rainbow flag is used by the LGBT community to celebrate diversity. This means respecting everyone and all of the differences that make us unique. However, the colours of the rainbow flag also have their own specific meanings:

- Red – life
- Orange – healing
- Yellow – sunlight
- Green – nature
- Blue – peace
- Violet – spirit

The flag was first created in the USA in the 1970s but since then has become a symbol of acceptance and peace across the world

In cities all over the planet people celebrate Pride every year with thousands of rainbow flags. Pride celebrates the LGBT community and remembers the challenges that have been overcome to be where we are today

Activity (1hr)

Show your support for the LGBT community with a recycled rainbow collage to decorate your hall. You will need:

- A large variety of coloured recyclables cut to size- this will need prep in advance- think paper, card, fabric, plastics, feathers, foam, ribbon, foil- anything that can be glued
- A large board or piece of card to form the back of your collage
- Glue, scissors

You may want to back your board with coloured card first to create a rainbow

1. Once you're ready, glue the recycled materials by colour to create a beautiful, environmentally friendly rainbow collage
2. Hang this collage in a prominent place to remind the young people about our commitment to diversity, acceptance and looking after our world and each other

An alternative way to run this activity could be done using coloured post it notes- this will give a similar effect but is not as good for the environment (or as fun!)

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A Brief LGBT History of Scotland

1971 Scotland's first gay night, Cobweb Disco, takes place in Edinburgh

1980 Homosexuality is decriminalised in Scotland for people over the age of 21

1989 LGBT Youth Scotland is established in Edinburgh with a mission to empower LGBT young people

1995 Scotland's first Pride march gathers on Barony Street in Edinburgh on 17 June

2000 The newly-formed Scottish Parliament repeals Section 28 (Clause 2a in Scotland), the law which prohibited the 'promotion' of homosexuality in schools in Britain

2003 Margaret Smith and Patrick Harvie become Scotland's first out LGB MSPs

2004 The Gender Recognition Act is passed, providing legal recognition for transgender men and women

2005 The first same sex civil partnerships take place in Scotland on 20 December

2007 Equal rights are granted to same-sex couples applying for adoption

2009 Carol Ann Duffy becomes the first woman, the first Scot and the first LGBT Poet Laureate

2010 The UK government passes the Equality Act 2010, providing protection from discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity

2014 The first same-sex weddings take place at 00.01 on Hogmanay

2016 Playwright Jo Clifford is the first trans woman to perform 'Reply from the Lassies' at a Burn's Night celebration in Glasgow

Activity 1 (15m)

Show your support for the LGBT community with a pledge board for your hall. Use post-its to create a wall of pledges and promises for being more LGBT inclusive and ideas for supporting a friend who is coming out

Activity 2 (15m)

Create visual symbols of your support for the LGBT community. Using rainbow coloured ribbon, create small bows with a safety pin to show your acceptance and support

Activity 2 (1hr)

Plan for your next Pride event! Research your local Pride event and plan how you could attend/fund this. Is there a march you could take part in? How could you show support? Would you like to make special banners/signs to take with you?