

## Plan on a Page | Lesson 3: Stories of Identity and Belonging

### Guiding Questions:

- Which aspects of my identity, if any, are fixed, and which ones are more fluid?
  - What factors can make it challenging for me to be who I want to be in the world?  
How can I navigate or rise above these challenges?
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### Activities:

#### 1. Warm Up with a Sketch to Stretch

Distribute the **Storytelling Sketch to Stretch** handout. Read the quotations and have students choose one for a **Sketch to Stretch** journal reflection. The full lesson plan has other ideas for how to respond to the quotations.

#### 2. Read and Discuss Young-Adult Personal Narratives

Explain the **Jigsaw** teaching strategy and move students into groups of four. Each group needs copies of **one of the four personal narrative essays** and the **Personal Narrative Connection Questions** handout. In their “expert” group and “teaching” group discussions, encourage students to support their ideas with evidence from the text, identity readings, and their own experiences.

#### 3. Debrief as a Class

Have each group share key takeaways from the Jigsaw activity with the class. Then discuss the final question: *Who or what can make it challenging for young people to be who they really want to be in the world? How can you navigate or rise above these challenges?*

Record students’ ideas on a T-chart. Write the challenges in one column and their ideas for navigating or rising above them in the other column. Invite students to share creative ways to navigate or rise above the challenges they face as they author their identities in private and public spaces.