



# Ice Cream for Understanding!

Appreciating  
Differences,  
Diversity, and  
Freedom of  
Choice

Grades 3 & Up

**Ice Cream for Understanding,** is a program based on the book *Star Spangled Sprinkles, Please!* The program provides an in-depth learning experience exploring how diversity, appreciating differences, and religious freedom can continue to grow as essential values in the evolution of American culture.

Participants explore these themes through the *Star Spangled Sprinkles, Please* story, large and small group discussions, and by collaborating to make an original ice cream cone mural to represent their thoughts about diversity.

By Paul Rodriguez for Rodro Books and Education- [www.rodro.com](http://www.rodro.com)

# About The Book

In the story, *Star Spangled Sprinkles, Please*, Rodro and his friends exercise their freedom of choice by choosing their favorite ice cream toppings.



They only come to their senses when they figure out the symbolic meaning of the one topping they all have in common, Star Spangled Sprinkles. When they reflect on the American flag, they realize how lucky they are to have freedom of choice.



Along the way, they explain how their religion's food rules affect their choices. When they pick toppings that gross each other out, and Rodro gets greedy, the result is a food fight.



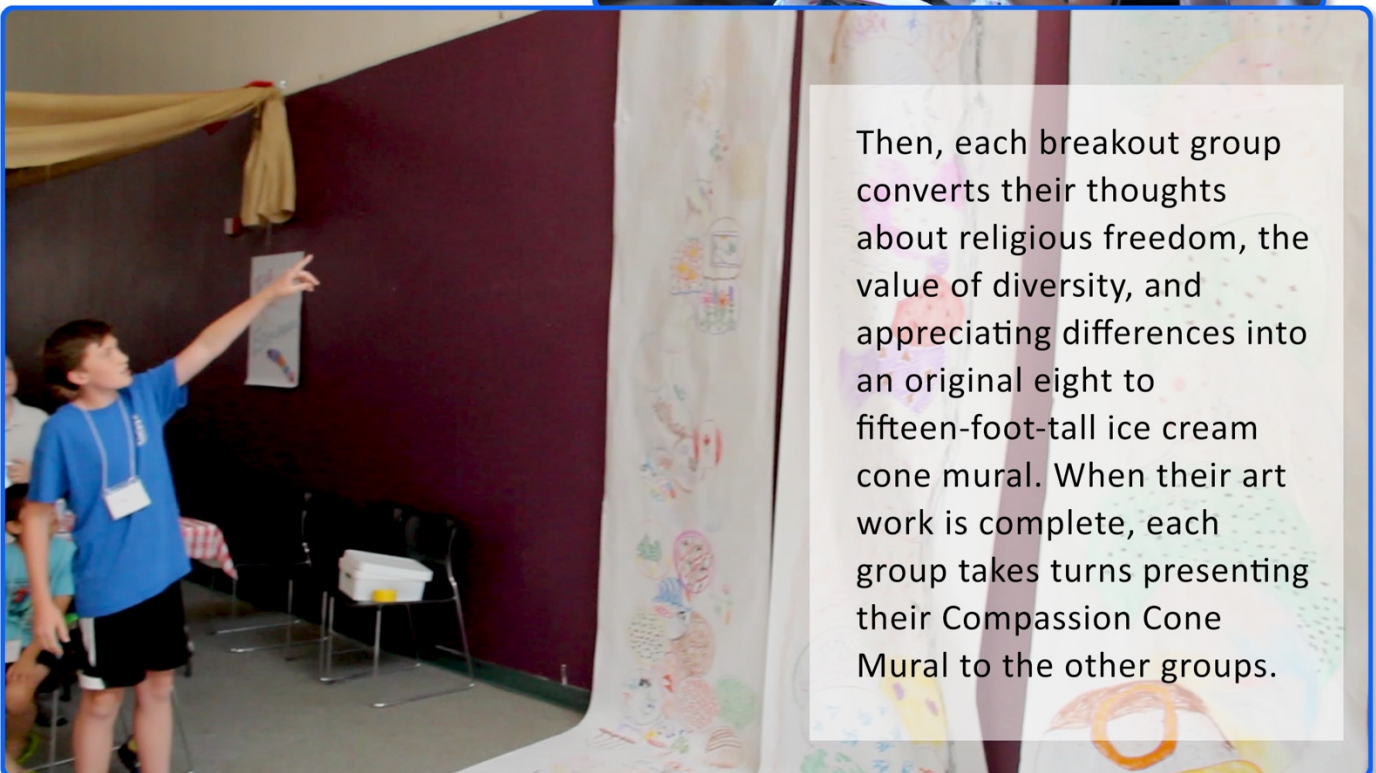
As a result, their appreciation of their freedoms, such as religion and the right to choose any topping they please, bonds them together as friends forever.

# About The Program

The *Star Spangled Sprinkles, Please*, program begins with a book reading and Q & A discussion, followed by small group, breakout sessions to delve more deeply into discussions and sharing of the values presented in the story.



So how can we wrestle with even our own faith, to push through those walls of fear?



Then, each breakout group converts their thoughts about religious freedom, the value of diversity, and appreciating differences into an original eight to fifteen-foot-tall ice cream cone mural. When their art work is complete, each group takes turns presenting their Compassion Cone Mural to the other groups.

Finally, the program concludes with an ice cream buffet featuring common and uncommon toppings. During the buffet participants are encouraged to try something new when creating their ice cream treats. Then they celebrate how the differences and beauty of their unique ice cream creations reflect their own differences and beauty.



The program is available for school and community settings. There are four 30-60 minute sections. They may be completed as a one-day event or as a three or four day residency.



## Session Outline

1. Book reading and Q & A discussion, full group/assembly (30-60 min.)
2. Small group/individual classroom, breakout sessions for more in-depth facilitated discussions (30-60 min.)
3. Small group/individual classroom, breakout sessions for the mural making project (30-60 min.)
4. Buffet with Compassion Cone Mural gallery and group presentations. (30-60 min.)

**For additional information and pricing, please contact Rodro:**

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