



## Creating Safe Spaces for LGBTQ Youth DIY Project

### Civic Circle Area: Voice

*The impact of COVID-19 continues to change our daily lives and routines, but volunteering and civic engagement are just as important as ever. This project can be modified to adhere to social distancing guidelines set by local and national authorities, to do virtually or to do at home and deliver via mail or drop off.*

For LGTBQ youth, it's important to have access to safe spaces where they can freely express themselves. [According to the CDC](#), 33% of LGBTQ youth have experienced bullying at school and 27% have experienced cyberbullying. Every day, LGTBQ youth are forced to skip classes or miss full days of school because they don't feel safe around their peers. Creating Safe Spaces in your school, community or after-school programs will help LGTBQ youth feel respected and supported.

### What You Need:

- Paper
- Markers or and colored pencils/pens

### Steps:

1. Request a meeting with your teacher to discuss the importance of making the classroom a safe space for the LGTBQ youth. Propose the idea of creating Safe Spaces that are marked.
2. Invite your classmates to come together and discuss the importance of having safe spaces in the school. Make sure participants understand the importance of being a [LGTBQ ally](#) and the importance of making the classroom a safe space for LGTBQ youth.
3. Work together to make the LGTBQ Safe Space symbols to hang in your classroom or designated areas in the school.
4. [The Safe Space symbol](#) is a combination of the LGTBQ pride flag, the gay pink triangle and lesbian black triangle.
5. Post the Safe Space symbol in your classroom or designated area. If your school or group is engaged in remote learning, discuss how you can post the symbol virtually, like in your backgrounds.

**Facilitator Note:** This activity can be transformed into a Safe Space campaign for everyone in the school. Utilize the [GLSEN](#) Safe Space Kit for more resources on how to support LGTBQ youth.

### Reflection Questions

- What else can be done to create safe spaces for LGTBQ youth?
- How did your project help LGTBQ youth?
- What did your community or group learn?
- What was the best part of this project? Why?