# Breaking Social Norms Project Ideas For High School

Checkout breaking social norms project ideas for high school students:

#### **Public Behavior:**

- 1. Walk backwards all-day
- 2. Wear clothes inside out in public
- 3. Skip instead of walking on busy streets
- 4. Carry a plant and talk to it
- 5. Wear pyjamas to formal events
- 6. Stand facing the back in elevators
- 7. Eat messy food with chopsticks at restaurants
- 8. Wear a costume on a regular day
- 9. Brush your teeth in public fountains
- 10. Do cartwheels to cross the street

### **Conversation:**

- 11. Communicate through interpretive dance for hours
- 12. Speak in rhymes during conversations
- 13. Answer questions with movie quotes
- 14. Respond with random animal sounds
- 15. Talk to strangers about their favourite cheese
- 16. Introduce yourself with a new name each time
- 17. Narrate your actions out loud all-day
- 18. Speak very slowly with long pauses
- 19. Use exaggerated facial expressions when talking
- 20. Ask people to repeat everything they say

#### Dining:

- 21. Eat soup with a fork at restaurants
- 22. Use oversized utensils for every meal
- 23. Eat dessert first, then appetisers, then the main course
- 24. Bring your chair to busy restaurants
- 25. Cut all food into star shapes before eating
- 26. Eat under the table at a fancy restaurant
- 27. Stand on one leg while eating a full meal
- 28. Use chopsticks for non-Asian cuisine
- 29. Drink everything with a crazy straw
- 30. Wear a bib to a high-end restaurant

#### School:

- 31. Take notes using only pictures
- 32. Raise both hands to answer every question

- 33. Sit on the floor instead of the chairs
- 34. Wear a new hat each class period
- 35. Speak in a made-up language during lessons
- 36. Walk sideways through the hallways
- 37. Applaud after each answer in class
- 38. Carry all books in a fishing net
- 39. Do jumping jacks during presentations
- 40. Write assignments in invisible ink or backwards

### **Technology:**

- 41. Use a rotary phone in public
- 42. Type on an invisible keyboard at cafes
- 43. Pretend your shoe is a phone
- 44. Hold your tablet like a steering wheel
- 45. Wear headphones that aren't connected
- 46. Use a banana as a phone
- 47. Mime taking selfies without a phone
- 48. Shout internet slang in real-life
- 49. Wear VR goggles while walking around town
- 50. Respond to texts with handwritten letters

### **Shopping:**

- 51. Push an empty shopping cart through stores
- 52. Try on clothes over your regular outfit
- 53. Measure everything with a banana for scale
- 54. Pay for small items with pennies
- 55. Ask for free samples of non-food items
- 56. Wear sunglasses and a trench coat while shopping
- 57. Use a fishing rod to reach high shelves
- 58. Bring shopping bags made of leaves
- 59. Juggle items in checkout lines
- 60. Read ingredient lists out loud dramatically

### **Transportation:**

- 61. Pedal an invisible bike to school
- 62. Wear water wings on public transportation
- 63. Hop on one foot to your destination
- 64. Use a pogo stick instead of walking
- 65. Wear roller skates indoors
- 66. Paddle an imaginary canoe on the sidewalk
- 67. Ride a kid's tricycle to run errands
- 68. Walk a stuffed animal on a leash
- 69. Wear scuba gear on the bus
- 70. Travel by bouncing on a space hopper

#### **Personal Space:**

- 71. Stand too close when talking to people
- 72. High-five everyone on the street
- 73. Wear an inflatable sumo suit all-day
- 74. Give yourself applause regularly
- 75. Carry a life-size cardboard cutout
- 76. Wear a bubble made of hula hoops
- 77. Do the chicken dance while waiting in line
- 78. Wear a sign offering free hugs
- 79. Use a megaphone for regular conversations
- 80. Carry a stepladder, using it randomly

### **Greetings:**

- 81. Greet people with a formal bow
- 82. Fist bump instead of shaking hands
- 83. Introduce yourself in the third person
- 84. Use secret handshakes with everyone
- 85. Greet people by tapping their nose
- 86. Start conversations with "In conclusion..."
- 87. Respond to "Hello" with animal facts
- 88. Wear silly name tags
- 89. Give weather reports instead of saying hello
- 90. Compliment a random body part as a greeting

#### Time:

- 91. Set your phone to a different time zone
- 92. Celebrate New Year's Eve randomly
- 93. Wear multiple watches and check them dramatically
- 94. Use a sundial instead of a clock
- 95. Refer to time using fruit comparisons
- 96. Follow another country's time zone
- 97. Measure time with an hourglass in public
- 98. Use prehistoric time terms, like "2 mammoths ago."
- 99. Schedule appointments for impossible times
- 100. Wear a clock as a necklace, checking it often

### Clothing:

- 101. Wear clothes for the wrong weather
- 102. Add a new layer of clothing every hour
- 103. Wear mismatched shoes
- 104. Wear a fancy hat with casual outfits
- 105. Dress for a different decade each day
- 106. Wear all clothes backwards
- 107. Change outfits several times daily

- 108. Wear multiple ties in unusual ways
- 109. Dress as different professions throughout the day
- 110. Mix conflicting patterns and colours

#### Music:

- 111. Sing instead of talking
- 112. Play air guitar during serious conversations
- 113. Beatbox when ordering food
- 114. Conduct an invisible orchestra while walking
- 115. Dance wildly with headphones in quiet places
- 116. Use ringtones as punctuation when speaking
- 117. Hum your school's anthem between sentences
- 118. Break into song randomly, like in a musical
- 119. Clap a beat for others when they talk
- 120. Assign theme songs to people and play them when they arrive
- 121. Communicate by humming popular tunes

### **Breaking Social Norms Project Ideas for College Students:**

- 1. Host a formal tea party in the library
- 2. Wear scuba gear to all your classes
- 3. Communicate through interpretive dance for a day
- 4. Use old-timey words in modern conversations
- 5. Dress as different historical figures each day
- 6. Eat meals with comically oversized utensils
- 7. Conduct lectures in Pig Latin
- 8. Travel by pogo stick across campus
- 9. Wear a different wig to each class
- 10. Use medieval weapons as school supplies

## **Social Norms to Break for Psychology Project:**

- 11. Stand backwards in elevators, facing others
- 12. Whisper instead of speaking normally
- 13. Wear pyjamas to formal events or meetings
- 14. High-five strangers instead of saying hello
- 15. Eat dessert first at restaurants
- 16. Walk sideways through crowded areas
- 17. Wear sunglasses indoors, even at night
- 18. Applaud after everyday tasks are done
- 19. Wear multiple hats stacked on your head
- 20. Respond to questions with unrelated movie quotes

### How To Teach Social Norms To Students?

- 1. Use role-play scenarios to practice social interactions
- 2. Discuss real-life examples of social norms
- 3. Create classroom rules together with students
- 4. Read stories that highlight different cultural norms
- 5. Play games to reinforce polite behaviours
- 6. Watch videos that show proper social etiquette
- 7. Have students identify norms in various settings
- 8. Encourage peer-to-peer teaching of social skills
- 9. Use social stories to explain expected behaviours
- 10. Give specific praise for following social norms
- 11. Model appropriate behaviours consistently as the teacher
- 12. Discuss the consequences of not following social norms
- 13. Create visual aids that show social expectations
- 14. Assign projects that explore norms in other cultures
- 15. Practice greetings and introductions regularly in class
- 16. Use puppets to show social interactions
- 17. Encourage reflection on why certain norms exist
- 18. Teach conflict resolution skills through scenarios
- 19. Discuss how norms can change in different situations
- 20. Have students journal about their social experiences