



Selfies

Time required
(mins)



Key Stage 2

Learning outcomes

- ✓ I can understand and talk about what's important to me
- ✓ I can understand, talk about and celebrate difference
- ✓ I can begin to understand and talk about personal goals
- ✓ I can begin to understand and talk about how I can support others in reaching their goals

Preparation time

20 minutes

Resources needed

- Blank postcards or thin card cut to A5/A6 size
- String or wool in two colours
- Scissors
- Tape or Blu-tack
- Old magazines

String Connections

An activity exploring the human points of connection by encouraging and supporting discussions around tolerance, self-image and aspiration.

What happens

1. Ask each pupil to write the following statements (or other 'identity' questions of your choosing) clearly onto a blank postcard or paper. Pupils should use a separate postcard/paper for each response:
 - *I like to eat...*
 - *I enjoy playing...*
 - *I like to wear...*
 - *A special place for me is...*
 - *I would like to travel to...*
 - *In 10 years time I see myself...*
 - *I dream of becoming a...*
2. In groups of four to five, ask pupils to find a space in the room – could be on the floor, at a table – and share their answers and see if anyone has any of the same responses.
3. Using string or wool of one colour ask pupils to physically connect (using tape or Blu-tack) their postcard to anyone else in their group who shares one of the answers with them. If they share two answers they should connect two pieces of string and so on. They may find they have several connections to one other person and multiple strings, or they may find they have no strings attached at this point.
4. Next, ask them to discuss their responses together in more depth and using a second colour of string or wool to make connections to anyone in their group whose answers they agree with.
 - *For example, one pupil has said they like eating pizza while another has written that they like eating ice cream...but as they also like pizza, they could make a string connection here. Again, use as many strings as there are connections.*
5. If time permits, the activity could continue with linking two groups together to continue the discussion and to make more string connections with each other. The intention is that the strings actually begin to look quite tangled and visually create a mesh or web of things that connect the whole group.
6. Ask pupils to illustrate their 'identity' statements using images found in magazines or by drawings. For example a pupil might collect together an image from a pizza advert as the food they enjoy or a football to illustrate the things they enjoy playing, etc.

- Glue sticks
- Pencils, felt pens, other drawing items
- A5/A4 paper

7. Cut and paste these images together onto a blank piece of paper to make an alternative self-portrait.
8. Display these self-portraits together in the class to create an alternative class portrait.

Reflection questions

- *What have we noticed about the things we have in common?*
- *What has surprised you about the connections you have with others?*
- *How do the things we like make us into a picture of ourselves?*
- *How important is it that we all like different things, and that we also share likes and dislikes?*
- *What about our future aspirations that are so varied?*

This activity works well with

- Anyone Who
- Finding My Place

