

RSE & PSHE > Upper KS 2 > Families and relationships > Lesson 8: Stereotypes: Race and religion

Learning objective and success criteria

- To explore the impact of stereotypes and how they can lead to discrimination
- I can explain how we make assumptions about people based on how they look
- I understand that stereotypes around race and religion can be harmful
- I can explain how stereotypes can affect the way people are treated and can lead to discrimination

Before the lesson

Have ready

• *Presentation: Photos* (see Attention grabber)

Print

• Activity: Photo answer sheet (see Classroom resources) – one per pupil

Attention grabber

Give each pupil a copy of the *Activity: Photo answer sheet*. Explain to the children that you are going to share some photographs of people and they are going to answer the questions on their activity sheet. Ask them to write the first thing they think of when they see each image. Share the *Presentation: Photos.*

Presentation: Photos

Show on your interactive whiteboard

Key question

• What do we know about people from a photo?

Main event

Ask the children to compare and discuss their answers with the other pupils sitting on their table. How many of their answers were the same or similar?

Ask the children if they can see any problems with this activity. If they are not sure, explain that actually, we do not know any of the answers to these questions as we do not know the people involved. Write on the board the saying 'you can't judge a book by its cover' and discuss this with the children.

Return to the answers the children gave and look at those which were similar. Ask the children why they thought they gave similar answers. Are they aware that they are stereotyping? Ask the children what factors might have affected their stereotyping, in this case it is probably race, religion and gender. The children may not recognise this or be willing to say it. If they do not, talk to them about the fact that the people were a mixture of ethnicity (race) and religion. Explain that stereotyping people in this way, or any way, causes issues and often leads to discrimination, which can be negative and destructive. As part of this discussion, explain to the children what discrimination is (the unfair treatment of different groups of people, especially on the grounds of race, age, sex, or disability) including the fact that racism is a form of discrimination.

This may lead to a conversation on the nature of racism and it is important to give children the chance to explore this.

Challenge any racist or disciminatory views and discuss with the class why these attitudes are not appropriate.

Key questions

- What stereotypes exist about race and religion?
- Why can stereotypes become negative and destructive?
- How stereotypes can contribute to discrimination?

Wrapping up

Talk to the children about the laws on discrimination and explain that the Equality Act is designed to protect people. You may wish to recap the other stereotypes children have considered including gender, disability and age (the children may have covered these issues in 'RSE & PSHE, Year 3, Families and relationships, Lesson 8: Stereotyping: Age', RSE & PSHE, Year 4, Families and relationships, Lesson 6: Stereotypes: Disability' and 'RSE & PSHE, Year 5, Families and relationships, Lesson 7: Stereotypes: Gender'). gender, disability and age are protected characteristics under the Equality Act (although gender would be included under the characteristic of sex). Discuss the fact that stereotypes, among other factors, can lead to people being treated unfairly and this is why the law is there.

Ask children what they think they can do to address stereotypes around race and religion.

Key questions

- How does the law protect people from discrimination?
- How can we challenge stereotypes?

Glossary

- Race
- Religion
- Stereotype
- Discrimination
- Racism

Pupils with secure understanding indicated by: Understanding that stereotypes exist and these can lead to discrimination.

Pupils working at greater depth indicated by: Beginning torecognise stereotyping
behaviours and the impact of discrimination.

Pupils needing extra support: Could work in pairs for the activity in the Attention grabber.

Pupils working at greater depth: Can be challenged to look in more detail about how stereotypes around race and religion can be discriminatory.

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