



Design your dream place activity

Topic: Group Identity

Key Stages: 2, 3

Ask the students about where they live...

- What shops do they have/don't have
- Is there a park, green space
- Are there any places to eat?
- Are there any religious building etc,
- Do they like where they live? Why/why not?!

Group or pair up the students. Ask them to think of a city / town / village / place, either real or imaginary. Tell the students they now need to re-design it in such a way which would make it inclusive for all.

What does inclusive mean?

They must think about all the details (suggest some: public space, food industry, education, transport infrastructure, etc) and can present it back to the class.

There are various ways to complete this activity. You could choose one or offer your students several options, and then ask each group to present to the whole group afterwards.

Here are some ideas:

- A city plan – aerial view / map showing features of their dream city / town / village / place. You could get students to work on A3 pieces of paper to design. Ask them to label the different aspects of their 'city / place for all' and be prepared to share back.
- A drama / role play that acts out a short city / town / village / place vision TV advert. You could assign roles in the groups (narrator, citizens of the city) and ask them to produce three key scenes that show the benefits of the 'city / town / village / place for all'.
- Dragon's Den / Apprentice style pitch to showcase vision. You could give them an A3 poster to write down what they value about the city / town / village / place and give them key questions to keep in mind when preparing their pitch.

Whatever method is used, it is important for learners to share and reflect on the process of creating their vision. It is the discussions and choices they have made, and the reasons for those, that are at the heart of the learning in this activity.

Once everyone has shared with the rest of the group, ensure you have a thorough reflection discussion. This is where the key to this activity lies.

Reflection questions

- What do you think is the most important part of your city / town / village / place for all?
- Do you think that everyone would be able to enjoy your city / town / village / place?
- How could your city / town / village / place be more like your dream city / town / village / place? Why is it not already?
- How can people from different backgrounds come together to improve a city / town / village / place?
- What skills, values and behaviour does it require to make a place better?
- What can you start to do in your own life to improve the spaces you share with others?

Write some of their ideas and suggestions on the board.

Extension:

You could ask the class to draw/write about an imaginary world without difference.

Design an assembly