

Identity Lesson Plan 3: My Name, My Story!

In the last few lessons, we have looked at different aspects of our identities and explored differences and similarities among each other.

In this lesson the students will use their writing skills to celebrate the many aspects of their identity. We will focus on our name and other aspects of our identity as a basis to write stories or poems.

The writing aspect of this lesson lesson is best suited to KS2 classes.

Total lesson length: 50 mins

Learning objectives

- To celebrate students' own identity
- To use prose or poetry to express, explore and deepen self-awareness
- To understand the power of personal narratives to build self-esteem

Preparation

- Story of My Name worksheet, copied per student (provided)
- PowerPoint presentation for class (included)
- Completed identity backpacks

Curriculum topics

RE

- Meaning and Purpose
 - / Identity
 - / Spiritual and personal views
- Religion and society
 - / Community cohesion
- World religions
 - / Interfaith issues
 - / Worldviews

PSHE

- About you
- Diversity

RSE

- Respectful relationships

Citizenship

- Community, Identity and Diversity

Timings	Script	What you will need
5 mins	<p>Topic Introduction: Identity Stories</p> <p>Explain to the children that famous authors have used various methods to express their ideas, feelings and fantasies. Many have written autobiographies and / or poems about their lives. Say that today we are going to turn our names into a story of our own.</p> <p>Ask the class, who thinks a person's name is an important part of their identity?</p> <p>Explain that our names form part of who we are, our identity. It's one of the things that makes us US, and not somebody else. It's how others know us, but it is often something we don't give much thought to. Just by taking the time to discuss our names we can learn so much more about ourselves and others.</p> <p>The day before the next activity, ask the students to talk to their parents / carers about why they were given their name. If helpful, print out and send the students home with the 'Story of My Name' worksheet provided.</p>	<p>Story of My Name worksheet</p>

Timings	Script	What you will need
5 mins	<p data-bbox="331 244 862 276">Activity 1: Interview my name</p> <p data-bbox="331 339 1086 371">Model first to the class the story of your name.</p> <p data-bbox="331 435 1406 467">For example, my names mean <i>x</i>, my parents chose it because of <i>y</i>.</p> <p data-bbox="331 531 1361 611">Ask the students to either talk to the person sitting next to them about their name, or use these questions to prompt discussion:</p> <ol data-bbox="331 691 1568 1117" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="331 691 750 722">1 What is your full name?<li data-bbox="331 754 1019 786">2 Do you like your name? Why / why not?<li data-bbox="331 818 1041 850">3 Why did your parents choose your name?<li data-bbox="331 882 840 914">4 What does your name mean?<li data-bbox="331 946 840 978">5 Do you have any nicknames?<li data-bbox="331 1010 1568 1042">6 If you could change your name, would you? What would you change it to?<li data-bbox="331 1074 1388 1106">7 Are there any stories you would like to share about your name? <p data-bbox="331 1169 1227 1249">Bring the class back together and ask students to share some new things they learnt about their partners name.</p> <p data-bbox="331 1313 1500 1393">Alternatively, you can ask them to introduce each other. Did anyone have any similarities in their name, its meaning or why it was chosen for them?</p>	PowerPoint presentation

Timings	Script	What you will need
15 mins	<p data-bbox="327 240 846 280">Activity 2: Story of my name</p> <p data-bbox="327 339 1379 424">In this activity, students will be asked to think a little bit further to create a story of their name.</p> <p data-bbox="327 483 1395 523">Ask students to write responses to the following series of prompts.</p> <p data-bbox="327 582 1509 711">Teacher can model and give examples throughout each prompt statement. Tell students to not think too much about it and write whatever comes to mind first.</p> <ul data-bbox="327 759 1581 1358" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="327 759 1581 888">• Prompt 1: List three things that the sounds in your name remind you of. These may be words that rhyme with your name; things that you associate with individual sounds; or a combination.<li data-bbox="327 936 1429 1018">• Prompt 2: Make a statement (or more) beginning “My name is...”. You may name yourself after any person or thing you choose.<li data-bbox="327 1066 1391 1147">• Prompt 3: List one sight, one sound, one taste, one smell, and one texture (or more) you remember from your childhood.<li data-bbox="327 1195 1581 1276">• Prompt 4: Make a statement (or more) beginning “My name means...”. You may use the actual origins of your name; you may also make some up.<li data-bbox="327 1324 1429 1358">• Prompt 5: List some people and things that are important to you.	PowerPoint presentation

Timings	Script	What you will need
25 mins	<p>Ask class to get into pairs and share what they've written with each other. Encourage one or two students to share what they've written with the rest of the class.</p> <p>Activity 3: My name, my story!</p> <p>Ask students to look back at their identity backpacks and the language they generated in the writing activity above.</p> <p>Ask then to write a poem or short piece of writing which reflects their own name and aspects of their identity. At the end we will ask some to share the writing with the class. There is no formal constraint for this assignment: students can write in any way that seems useful or interesting to them.</p> <p>If you feel this might help guide them, put up some prompt questions that are on the power point presentation, students may make use of prompt questions below or none at all.</p> <p>Prompt questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write about your name and its meaning. Do you like it? Do you have a nickname? Were you named after someone in your family? How did you come to be named? 	<p>Completed identity backpacks</p> <p>PowerPoint presentation</p>

Timings**Script****What you will need**

- Write about your experience in having this name.
- What's one of your earliest childhood memories?
- What are some of your best qualities / traits?
- Write about one of your most useful talents.
- Describe a feature of yours that you really like.
- Write about a trait you inherited or picked up from a parent / family member.
- Tell your story about the importance of having a faith / belief / religion, or not
- Tell your story about when you met someone that inspired you.

Invite students to share their writing with the class.

Timings	Script	What you will need
5 mins	<p data-bbox="331 244 689 280">Reflection / Plenary:</p> <ul data-bbox="331 325 1518 491" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="331 325 1518 362">• How did you find the process of writing about your name and yourself?<li data-bbox="331 389 1518 426">• What activities did you find easier / more difficult? If so, why?<li data-bbox="331 453 1518 491">• How did you feel when you listened to your neighbours stories <p data-bbox="331 600 663 636">Extension Activity:</p> <p data-bbox="331 695 1301 732">Students to turn their stories into a music, art or film project.</p>	