

You will need:

- Whiteboard / projector
- Internet access

Taster Assembly

Teacher Notes | Ages 11-14

Aims & Objectives

To introduce students to the skill of empathy, learning how we can use it to gain an understanding of other people.

Lesson Outcomes

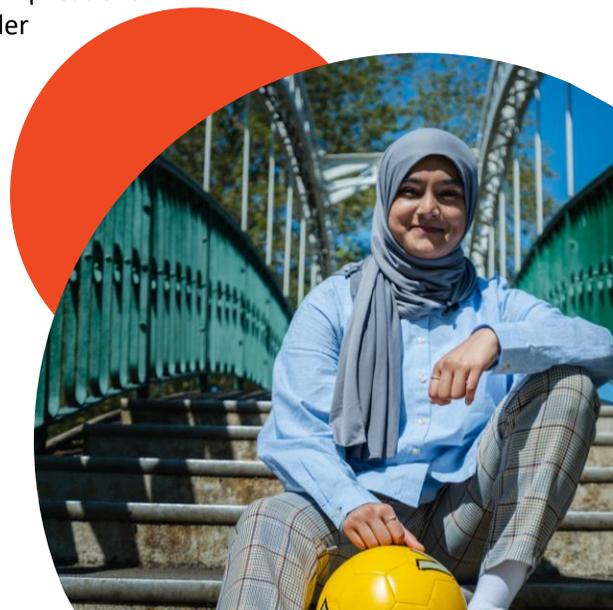
- All students will identify empathy as a means of connecting with others and gaining an understanding of life experiences different to their own.
- Most students will identify ways in which they can show empathy to others.
- Some students will consider how empathy can inform human-led decisions.

Before the Assembly

Please familiarize yourself with the assembly presentation and watch the film clips before presenting the assembly. Consider if any of the themes covered in the clips or in the scenarios will be triggering for any of your students and decide on how you can manage this sensitively. You may wish to make edits or use the version created for a different age group.

How would you change the world? | Part 1

- As the group are settling, display the first slide and encourage the students to think independently about how they would like to change the world.
- Bring the group together and ask them to share their suggestions, considering the prompts on the slide.
- Read the example suggestion on the next slide. Explore the implications of this suggestion with the group. Encourage them to consider how people of different personalities and in a range of circumstances would be affected by this change, as well as themselves.
- Use the prompts on the slides to explore how considering different perspectives and trying to understand people different to ourselves can help us make better decisions.



What is empathy? | Part 2

- Tell the students that empathy is a skill we can use to understand and connect more fully with others. Use the text on the slides to explain what empathy is and address any misconceptions.
- Read out the scenario on the slide and allow the students a short amount of time to discuss it with the person next to them, supported by the questions in the speech bubbles. Generate examples of empathic responses.
- Tell the students that they will now try to practice empathy by connecting with someone they do not know. Tell the group that they will watch a short film clip about a man called Habib. Habib was born in Afghanistan but was forced to move countries several times because of persecution and war. He now lives in London. In the film, Habib talks about having to leave his home. Use the link to access the film.
- Encourage the students to share their responses to the questions on the slide. Reinforce that by listening to Habib's words and considering his perspective, they are already starting to be empathic!
- Use the next slide to gauge the range of responses within the group. Encourage the students that all of the given examples are ways in which they have shown empathy and connected with Habib and his story.

Want to know more? | Empathy Week 2022

- If you are participating in Empathy Week 2022, use the next slide to tell the students what they can expect and how much there is to be excited about!
- If time allows, use the link to access the film trailer for Empathy Week 2022.
- Remember, it's not too late to register for Empathy Week 2022. Follow this [link](#) to join the #EmpathyGeneration.

Share your work!

Help to build the #EmpathyGeneration by sharing your work with other schools around the world!

Share your thoughts about what you have learnt today using your school's social media. Don't forget to tag us using the handles below

Twitter @TheEmpathyWeek

Instagram @EmpathyWeek

Facebook @EmpathyWeek

#EmpathyGeneration #EmpathyWeek2022

Or upload your responses to our virtual Empathy Wall:
www.empathy-week.com/empathywall

