



Points of View



Learning Intention

- Learn to evaluate their own and other people's opinions in an enjoyable way.

National Curriculum Skills

English Communicate clearly and confidently, expressing opinions and adapting talk to audience and purpose using appropriate gesture, intonation and register in order to engage the listener.

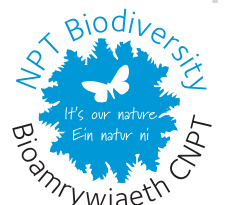
Activity Outline

- * Discuss problems that the children are aware of in their locality.
- * Introduce the scenario - show the 'newspaper cutting'
- * Discuss with children, what they think should happen.
- * Brainstorm arguments for and against the development.
- * Introduce the different points of view.
- * You could act out role plays within groups of 4/5.
- * What about using the opinions to develop ideas for persuasive writing or poster writing?

Resources

Newspaper cutting.

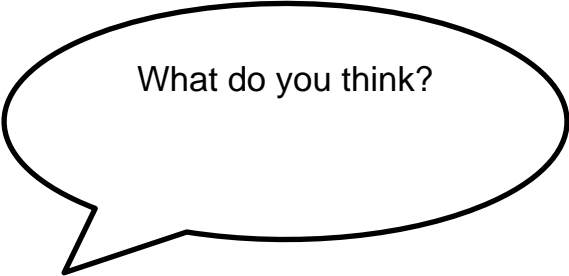
Character opinions.



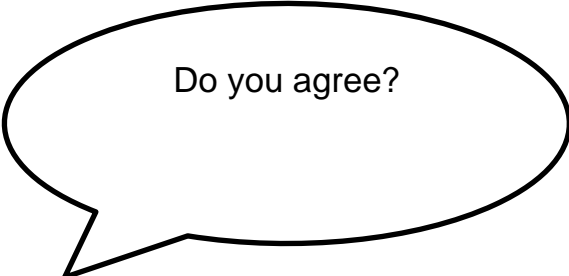
Points of view

Lesson Outline

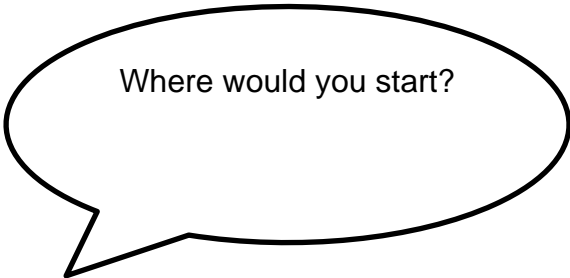
- Draw everyone's attention to the newspaper report.
- Discuss the proposal
- Ask what do they think?
- Discuss the pupils' ideas, noting down any interesting thoughts.
- Read the character opinions with the pupils.
- You could set the class into groups and role play a town meeting.
- You could set the class into groups and ask each group to discuss what they believe.
- Encourage the pupils to draw up an action plan to solve the issue, what would they write to each character? What would they say?




What do you think?



Do you agree?



Where would you start?



What plans would you put in place?

Something to Ponder!

Schools are going to be unhappy with new guidelines recommending that no new ponds should be built, and those that schools enjoy at the moment should be filled in. The guidelines came as part of a new health and safety initiative from the Accident Prevention Agency who, it seems, fear an increase in law suits from any parents unhappy with their child being injured while enjoying their local school pond.

“Schools should be covering the curriculum in other ways. School ponds are an accident waiting to happen. It’s only a matter of time.” said Mr Fairhurst, a health and safety expert. The Headteacher of a local Primary school responded “Our children are not allowed to go out to play and enjoy the wildlife around them anymore. I hope that the agency will rethink their ideas”. Conservation organisations expressed their disappointment at the news “there is no reason why ponds cannot be a safe place for children and wildlife. If these ponds are filled in, a huge variety of interesting creatures and plants will lose their homes”.

It looks likely that further guidelines will be released in the near future, suggesting that other, smaller ponds throughout the county should also be filled in.





Mrs Perks - local primary school Teacher

The children in my class adore finding creatures in our school pond. We are so lucky to have a pond in our back garden! All the pupils are careful and know not to go near the pond unless they are with a teacher. I love teaching the children about the things that live in our pond!

I wonder how much thought has been given to the wildlife in the area. If people begin filling in ponds, it is going to mean a great deal of distress for the animals already living there. I am unsure about the plan to fill in local ponds, although you can be sure that the Biodiversity Unit would have concerns.

Mrs Blackwood - Biodiversity Unit NPT



I for one am unsure about the need for the local school pond. If my lads were to fall into the pond and hurt themselves you can guarantee the council are going to find themselves in a lot of hot water! Shouldn't kids be learning in the classroom anyway?



Mr Lockey - Concerned Father

What a

ridiculous idea! We have had a superb relationship with all our parents. The school pond is a fabulous way of teaching children about local biodiversity and all our pupils, from the youngest Nursery child, all the way up to Year 6 show respect for our pond.



Mr Morely - Local Headmaster

I guess the health and safety experts have a point. I wouldn't want my little girl to hurt herself in the school pond. I wonder if it is always supervised. Do the children learn more about the local biodiversity this way? I'm not sure, but I do know that I'd prefer the kids to get on with their lessons in class.



Mrs Holmes - parent

In this current climate, we can't have pupils falling into school ponds and hurting themselves. The schools would have to take full responsibility for this matter. I can't say whether we are going to be filling in smaller ponds in our local area, we will need to take further figures on that.



Mr Fairhurst - Health and Safety expert

Assessment Sheet

Task

Target Skill

Compose writing that informs and persuades by using a variety of persuasive devices.

| | Confident | Attempted | Unsure |
|---|-----------|-----------|--------|
| Have I consulted a variety of resources to find example of persuasive devices? (books, magazines, posters) | | | |
| Have I used what I found out about persuasive language in my writing? | | | |
| Have I used any persuasive devices? Which persuasive devices have I used? Make a list here: | | | |
| Have I included facts about the proposal? | | | |
| Have I included people's opinions? | | | |
| Does my poster or letter inform and persuade? | | | |
| Have I included striking images? | | | |