

Lesson 3: PSHE/Citizenship- Challenging Stereotypes

This lesson is primarily a PSHE lesson which uses drama techniques. However, it can be adapted to have a stronger Drama focus by making it a comparison between stereotypes and complex characters.

Aim

To explore and understand the differences between stereotypes and complex individuals, and how stereotyping can lead to bullying.

Objectives

- To create dramatic representations of stereotypes and complex characters.
- To understand why stereotypes arise.
- To understand the negative/positive limitations of stereotyping.

National Curriculum links

CITIZENSHIP/PSHE: KS4 AO2, AO3

ENGLISH (Drama): KS4 AO1,AO2

Materials

Large empty classroom/Drama studio

White board. Marker pen.

Activities - Exploring social stereotypes

1. Warm-up Game - Students stand in a circle. Explain to them that in a moment they are going to face outwards. You are going to say a word and they will have 3 seconds to create a physical representation of that word and then turn in to face the group.

Use words from the following list. After each, count aloud to three and ask the pupils to turn into the circle, making their physical representation. They can have a brief look at each other's poses and then turn back out and wait for the next word.

Actor, Teenager, Gay, Friend, Tourist, American, Brit, Vicar, Football Player, Rugby Player, Politician, Celebrity, Asian

Make the point that most of these images will have drawn upon stereotypes that we each hold about many people in society.

2. Make the point that at the start of the play each of the characters hold stereotypical views of each other and individuals involved in football. Ask if anyone can remember what any of these views were.

Ask pupils to stand in a space. Read out the following quotes from the play and ask them to create a physical representation of the stereotype the words suggest.

Girls playing football

Sabina: I'd look ugly

Ryan: What?

Sabina: Bright red and sweaty. In shorts.

Asians playing football

Omar: How we eat too much curry, we're only good at cricket, we're the wrong physique-

Homosexuals playing football

Jez: Know what happened to the only player who said he was queer? His manager called him a 'bloody poof', brother John disowned him. Ended up committing suicide...

3. Write the name of each character on a board. As a whole class, brainstorm all the details you can remember about each character. Pay particular attention to things that challenge the stereotype or contradict other aspects of their character.
4. Divide the class into small groups 3-5. Allocate one of the four characters to each group.
5. Ask the group to create a multi-faceted image for their character i.e. a group image which reflects different aspects of the character, perhaps with each person representing a different facet.
6. Each person should think of a line they can say which adds further detail to their character (something they remember from the play, or something invented by themselves).
7. Show and discuss:
 - Why do we create stereotypes?
 - How truthful are they?
 - What is the impact of stereotyping?
 - Is stereotyping something to be avoided? If so, how can we?

For further information and resources look at the 'Resources' page