Here’s looking at you kid

Objectives

Sometimes, we don’t know what to say when we hear bad news, or what we should do if we see someone who looks or behaves differently. We can sometimes feel awkward. In this game, your class will explore what a smile, a look, or not being looked at feels like. These new skills will help your pupils understand what a look can say.

- Number of teachers/adults: 1
- Ages: Year 1+
- Number of children: 2–30
- Room requirements: desks and classroom clock with a second hand
- Duration: 30–45 minutes

How do we play the game?

1. Arrange your class so students can work in pairs facing each other.
2. Hand out a copy of the ‘Here’s Looking at You Kid Worksheet’ to each pupil.
3. Pupil 1 reads aloud the first instruction. ‘1. With eye contact, smile for 1 second’. Pupil 1 then looks at pupil 2 and smiles for 1 second.
4. Pupil 2 then marks on their sheet how they felt when pupil 1 looked at them. They do this by circling the face icons underneath each question.
5. Continue the worksheet until all the questions have been answered then swap places and pupil 2 reads out the questions and performs for pupil 1.

Discussion

When the whole class have finished their worksheets, ask your pupils to tell you how they felt for the different kinds of looks. Did the length of time that the look was held make a difference to how they felt about it? What type of look was the most comfortable and which was the most uncomfortable? Sometimes people and children who look different get stared at – what do you think this might feel like? What have you learned from this game?

Extensions

Each pupil can make a bar chart to show how each type of look felt to them. They can use the chart at the bottom of their worksheet to work out a score for their answer to each question. The horizontal axis of the chart can be for the question numbers (1 to 10), and the vertical axis for their feeling score (-4 to 3).

Resources

Here’s Looking at You Kid Worksheet.