

English and Literacy: Bullying

Lesson plan 4: Characters and feelings

Age group: 6-8

Resources:

You will need:

- the book *Frog and the Stranger* by Max Velthuijs;
- the **Incident worksheet** (below).

Introduction and whole-class activity:

Read the story *Frog and the Stranger*. Discuss what the characters in the story thought of Rat. Ask the pupils why they think the characters had these thoughts.

1. What do we think about rats? How do we know? Are they all the same?
2. What do we think about dogs, horses etc.? Are they all the same?
3. Are people/pupils all the same?
4. How does the rat deal with the dislike shown him?
5. How do we deal with inappropriate behaviour?
6. Do we say things that are not true about our friends when we are angry with them?

Read the first 13 pages of the story again slowly, and let the pupils pick out the words used by Pig, Duck and Frog before they have even met and talked to him.

Draw a table with the three headings Pig, Duck and Frog on the board, and as you read each page, ask the pupils to tell you the words used by the three animals that suggest their feelings and thoughts about Rat.

You should expect to end up with this.

PIG	DUCK	FROG
stranger	thieving	wonderful smell
filthy	cheeky	cosy
dirty	lazy	nice fellow
be careful	rude	impressed
no business here		
stole wood		
disapproved		
different		

Why is it wrong for the animals to make these assumptions before meeting Rat? Do we ever do this?

Group activity:

Ask the pupils how they feel when people make assumptions about them.

Give out the **Incident worksheet** (below). Carefully read the question and each possible response to the pupils. Ask the pupils to place the responses in order, beginning with the most appropriate, numbering each response from 1 to 5.

Plenary:

Share the pupils' results on the board. Have all the pupils come up with same order? Do the pupils think they would really respond as they have said, if such an incident happened, or is it more difficult to respond in the right way when you are feeling angry? What could help us to respond in the right way?

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Worksheet: incident

Your friend is reading your favourite book. You want it too. What do you do?	You have been called horrible names by someone in your class. What do you do?
Grab the book	Call them names too
Ask them for it	Tell the teacher
Be rude to your friend	Look away
Scream until the teacher gives it to you	Punch them
Take turns	Cry