

Questions to Develop Citizenship Through Stories

Questions

- What do you think about.....?
- Is there anything that you would like to talk about?
- What do you think of that?
- What does that mean?
- Why do you think that?
- Who agrees or disagrees with this?
- Which would you prefer?
- What would you change if you could?
- What do you think will happen next ?
- What would it be like if [...]
- Can you agree on ...[e.g. what choice of action is best]?
- Can we share what we know about ...?
- What were the main points?

Purpose

- to direct pupils thinking towards a specific issue
- to follow the concerns of the pupils
- to discover pupils' perceptions
- to assess or clarify pupils' understanding of an idea
- to encourage pupils to examine or justify an opinion
- to assess whether there is a consensus
- to encourage pupils to make judgements
- to develop critical thinking
- to encourage pupils to predict or hypothesise
- to develop imagination
- to encourage negotiation
- to establish social perceptions and share knowledge
- to extract or generalise.

- Do you think that is fair? Why?
- Was that a good or bad thing to do? Why?
- Is there a rule here that might be useful?
- Would that rule still be good if you applied it to yourself?
- Would that rule or action be OK if applied to everyone?
- Who do you feel most sorry for in the story? Or how do you think (s)he was feeling?
- Why do you think (s)he did that?
- Do you think ... has any rights here? Why?
- What should she have done in that situation?
- What is the best choice of action here?
- What would happen if they acted in this way?
- Has anything like that happened to you? What did you do?
- How did that make you feel?
- What would be best for the group as a whole?

- to focus thinking on the fairness or justice of a situation
- to consider moral actions or principles
- to think about drawing up a general principle
- to apply the test of reversability
- to apply the test of generalisability
- to develop empathy
- to examine a person's motives or intentions
- to examine the rights implicit in a situation
- to consider what obligations or duties a person might have
- to critically evaluate possible outcomes
- to examine possible consequences
- to make a connection with the children's own experience
- to encourage expression of feelings
- to consider the common good.

