

HOMELESSNESS

TEACHER RESOURCE



Right Up Your Street: Lesson Plan

RIGHT UP YOUR STREET

ACTIVITY	INSTRUCTION	RESOURCES
Objective(s)	To understand what homelessness is To reflect on the causes of homelessness	
Starter	Slide 1: Odd one out. Show the pictures of different people on the presentation and ask students to decide who the odd one out is and why. Once they have had time to share explain that all the people on the picture were experiencing homelessness. Is this surprising? Why? Why not?	
Introduction	Slide 2: Introduce the lesson title and learning objectives.	
Main activities	Slide 3: Do a 4 word build: First of all give each person in the group a sheet of paper (alternatively this can be done in books) and ask each person to write down four words that come to mind when they think of the word 'homeless'. They should not consult with others, just write down their own ideas. If they seem hesitant, point out that there are no 'right' or 'wrong' words, just their own ideas.	Scrap Paper (optional)
	Next, ask the members of the group to form pairs. (If there is an odd number of people, a group of 3 can also be formed)	
	In the pairs, there will now be two people with eight words between them which represent, for them, 'homeless'. Ask them to agree on four words to keep from their eight original words, and therefore they will also have to eliminate four words.	
	This can lead to a lot of discussion about the words and the reasons why they chose them. Through doing so they will come to understand each other's reasons for the words they chose and how they understand the original word or concept.	



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Main activities (continued)	(In the case of a group of 3 they will have reduced their original 12 words down to 4) Next ask each pair to join with another pair and do exactly the same thing, reduce their words down to 4.	
	This further discussion of the original word, this time with each pair bringing their learnings and insights from their own discussion, creates even deeper exploration of the word or concept.	
	This process can obviously continue again and again, and but ideally you want to end up with about 8 words for the whole group of people you are working with. Gather feedback and write these 8 words down on a whiteboard/flipchart, under the heading homeless. (slide 3)	
	Depending on time and numbers, you can start with pairs who join with 4 other people etc. sizes at your discretion.	
	Ask for any observations any of them have about the final words.	
	Are they all negative? Why do people have this view?	
	Are there any positive words to pick up on e.g. 'temporary', 'new start'?	
	Ask if there are any new insights into homelessness that they gained through the exercise.	
	Once the build is done and the class has a conclusive idea of what homelessness is, give the students the character cards that show a range of people and situations, they are all experiencing homelessness.	Character Cards
	Ask the pupils to decide if their definitions/ideas were right? Why? Why not?	
	Finally tell the class the definition of homelessness is 'not having a home'.	



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ACTIVITY	INSTRUCTION	RESOURCES		
Main activities (continued)	Slide 4: Homeless isn't who I am video clip. Watch the video with the class and follow with a discussion: What do you think The Salvation Army is trying to show through this video? Did it surprise you that any of those people were experiencing homelessness? Why? Why not?	www. youtube.com/ watch?v=OSZ_ wWiEF8E		
	Slide 5: Give different statements about homelessness to each pupil. They have to tell the person next to them if they agree or disagree with it and why. Once discussion is done, get them to think about the reasons why people may experience homelessness and collate responses and show the main causes of homelessness on Slide 6.			
	Slide 7: Case stories OR interview with 4 residents at William Booth Centre Birmingham. Give each group a case study about a person who was homeless – ask each group to think about the following questions – What was the cause of homelessness? How did it lead to the individual experiencing homelessness? How did they feel? Someone from each group can then feedback to help form a class list of the causes of homelessness and the feelings that the people experienced.	Case Stories OR 4 Stories; Anyone can Become Homeless		
Plenary	Slide 8: Students to draw a picture or write a paragraph of the emotions you might feel if you are experiencing homelesness; they can then explain to the person next to them why they might feel like this.			