Embrace Our Differences

A celebration of our strengths,
talents and unique differences.



Aim

- To discuss our similarities and differences.
- To understand the term 'discrimination'.
- To understand the term 'diversity'.

Success Criteria

- I will be able to identify ways in which we are different and the same.
- I will recognise when someone is being discriminated against.
- I will understand that society is made up of a diverse range of people that have different attitudes, opinions and beliefs.
- I will know ways to make people feel included.

Embrace Our Differences

Sometimes, things happen in our local community or in the wider world that cause worries for adults. It is quite understandable that at times, those same worries can also start to cause us concern.

Within society, people don't always get along, and sometimes people forget that it is other people's differences that make them unique and special.



What Things Make Us Different?

Discuss with a partner all the things that make us different from each other. No two people are ever exactly the same!

Height

Skin colour

Eye colour

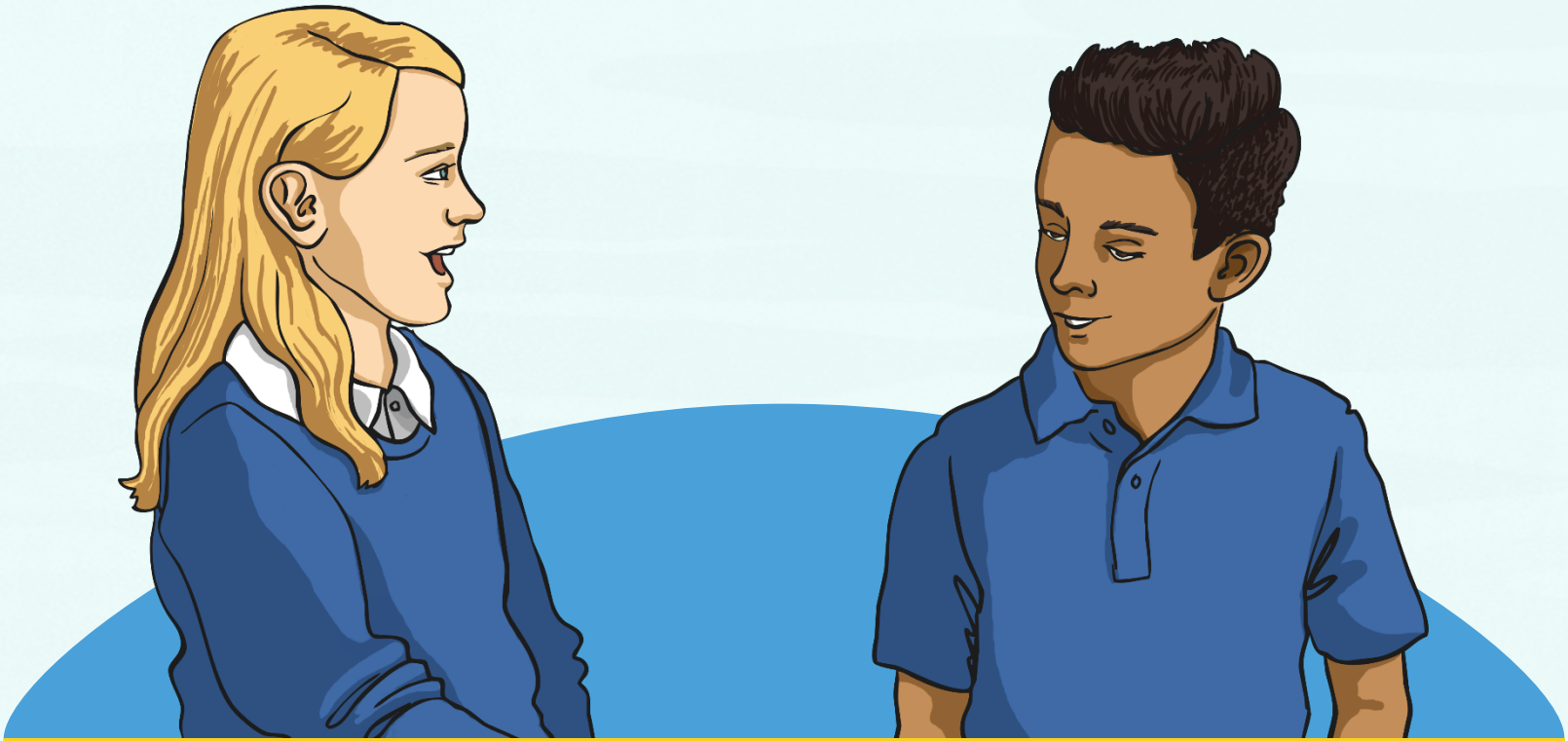
Type of family

Hair colour

What else?



What Things Make Us Special?



Now, tell your partner one thing that you think is special about them. It might be their hair, their smile, their kindness or a unique talent that you know they possess.

What If We Were All The Same?

Just imagine if everyone looked exactly the same and that we all acted in the same way.



Would life be as interesting if we all had the same looks, opinions and feelings? Probably not!

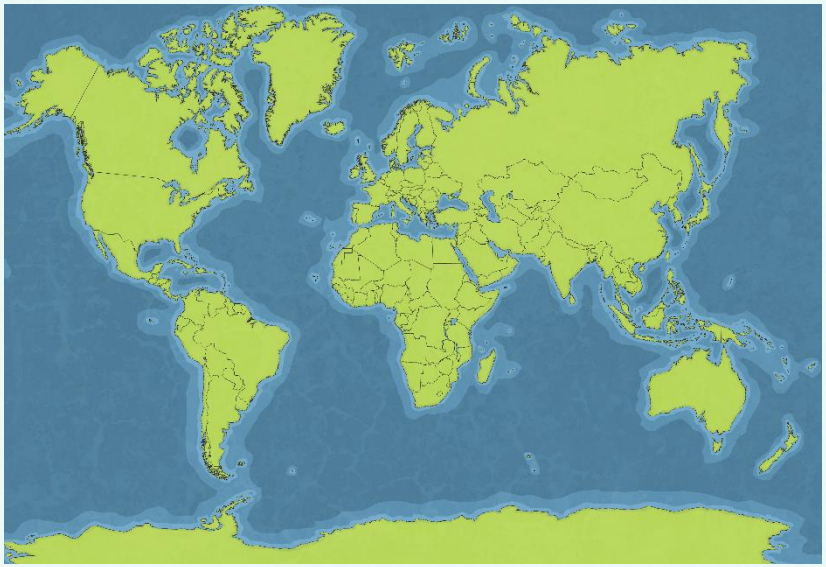
Discuss with your partner, what you think life would be like if everyone looked and acted in exactly the same way.

Where Do Our Differences Come From?

Lots of people in this country originally came from other countries – or their ancestors did, and this can often mean that we can share new ideas and find out things about other places, beliefs and customs.

It is this **diversity** that makes life more interesting.

Look at this map of the world and try to spot as many countries as you can. In pairs, research a country of your choice and find five interesting things about their customs and traditions there that you find interesting and different.



Respecting Differences

When a person doesn't respect the different qualities and opinions of another person or group, this can often be called **discrimination.**



Discrimination is the unfair treatment or bullying of one particular person or group of people. Often, this unfair treatment is because of the person's differences.

How Might People Discriminate Others Within School?

Discuss with your partner or within a group about how people may show their discrimination within school.

People might:

- deliberately leave someone out of a game or group;
- say something mean about another person's skin colour, religion, disability or another personal difference;
- tell another person that their personal beliefs and opinions are wrong;
- discuss a person's personal beliefs and opinions in an unkind way.

Dealing With Discrimination

If you thought you were being bullied or discriminated against, what do you think you should do?

If you heard someone being unkind at school, who would you tell? What would you do?

If you heard someone being unkind at home, who would you tell? What would you do?



Reflection

What did you find out today that you didn't know before?

If someone looks, acts, behaves or sounds different to you, embrace their differences! Diversity is a positive thing to have within society.

We are all different.



We all have the right to our own opinions and beliefs and that is what makes our school, and our world, a special place.

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