



IDENTITY

EXPLORING IDENTITIES

KEY STAGE 1 & 2

Exploring ways to feel
connected to ourselves and
our own sense of identity in
the world

Aims and Objectives

Pupils will practise skills of critical thinking & questioning, deep listening and empathy building. Lessons will examine our identity in the world, looking at the relationship between who we are and who we are told to be. Pupils will discuss and explore the different influences upon our identities, exploring in depth our online selves and the ways that we connect with people and present ourselves to the world.

Pupils will learn more about themselves, the roots of their own cultural identity and how to make their own choices about the things they like. Lessons will encourage students to engage in cross-cultural learning, exploring differences across traditions whilst promoting inclusion and celebration of cultural diversity.

Questions explored:

- What parts make up who we are? What are some of the biggest influences on our identities?
- What is 'culture' and what does it mean to our identity?
- Why do people often change when they are using an online identity?
- How are we influenced when making choices about who we are in particular situations?
- What are some of characteristics and qualities that people may have?
- What are my unique characteristics and qualities and how can I learn to celebrate them?

Contents of the topic

A downloadable box of lesson plans for KS1&2, with each week offering a 60 minute lesson on the following:

WEEK 1 | The story of me

WEEK 2 | My best self

WEEK 3 | Making choices

WEEK 4 | Love the skin I'm in



Otter's Best Cake

A THOUGHTBOX STORY



Our Key Stage 1 curriculum is all based around stories. Each of our topics is explored through a bespoke picture-book story, engaging children in some of the key themes and ideas of the topic in simple, accessible and exciting ways.

All of the KS1 stories contain non-human creatures as the central characters and engage children in learning about wider social issues through metaphor, symbols and themed narratives. Lessons develop key skills of discussion, active listening, critical thinking, empathy and global learning.

ThoughtBox KS1 is structured in the same format as our KS2 curriculum, each topic containing four different hour-long lesson plans beginning with a story and then exploring a range of activities to help pupils to engage, understand, explore perspectives and feel empowered about the topic.

Each topic comes with a scheme of work which links to PSHE and SMSC learning objectives as well as wider learning objectives within key National Curriculum subjects.

STORY SUMMARY: Otter has to bake a cake for the annual woodland fayre, but doesn't know how. He visits his good friends in the forest to learn how they all make cakes, but soon starts to panic when he realises that he'll never be able to bake a cake the way that they all do...he only knows how to bake like an otter and that just doesn't seem good enough.

ThoughtBox

HAPPINESS

EXPLORING IDENTITIES

KEY STAGE 1 & 2

Exploring ways to feel
connected to ourselves and
our own sense of identity in
the world

Aims and Objectives

Pupils will practise skills of critical thinking & questioning, deep listening and empathy building. Lessons will encourage pupils to think about the meaning of happiness and explore what the sensation of happiness feels like, as well as discuss what we all need to feel happy.

Pupils will explore a range of emotions that humans experience as well as some of the different ways to support emotional health. They will think about and discuss how to talk about difficult feelings and explore a range of thinking, doing and sharing activities to encourage emotional wellbeing. Lessons will open up discussions about different ways to approach happiness, looking at different countries and cultures as well as our overall human needs.

Questions explored:

- What is happiness?
- What are the 'bare necessities' we all need to feel happy?
- What is the difference between happiness and success?
- Can you measure happiness?
- Why do we find it tricky to talk about some of our more negative emotions?
- What can we do to support our own emotional health and that of the people around us?

Contents of the topic

A downloadable box of lesson plans for KS1&2, with each week offering a 60 minute lesson on the following:

WEEK 1 | What is happiness?

WEEK 2 | Mind your head

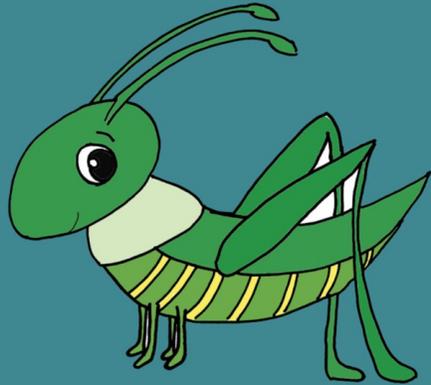
WEEK 3 | Measuring happiness

WEEK 4 | Positive thinking



Grasshopper's Lost Hop

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STORY SUMMARY: One day, Grasshopper wakes up feeling rather blue and when she tries to get out of bed, she realises that she's lost her hop! Her good friend Clang spends the day teaching her about five special things that she can do to start to feel a bit less sad and hopefully help her to find her hop again.

ThoughtBox

JOURNEYS

EXPLORING SOCIETY

KEY STAGE 1 & 2

Exploring the social issues
of our time to develop a
wider view and a deeper
connection with others

Aims and Objectives

Pupils will practise skills of critical thinking & questioning, deep listening and empathy building. Lessons will encourage students to engage in a series of reflective, discursive and creative exercises, exploring the stories of people who have been forced to leave their homes across the world in order to find safety.

Pupils will explore and connect with stories of migrants, looking at the language and emotions that are used when talking about refugees and immigrants, and the impact of words on our perceptions. They will learn about some of the differences between people's privileges and opportunities to move freely around the world depending upon their passport, as well as learning about why some people have to leave their homes and countries, and what some of the challenges in their lives might be when trying to find safety in a new place.

Questions explored:

- What do the terms refugee, immigrant and asylum seeker mean?
- How does labelling people often make us fear or misjudge them?
- Why are many people having to leave their homes?
- What influence does our passport have on our freedom?
- What do we all need to feel safe?
- What is it like to live in a refugee camp?
- What does it mean to feel at home?
- How can we make new people feel welcome in our communities?

Contents of the topic

A downloadable box of lesson plans for KS1&2, with each week offering a 60 minute lesson on the following:

- WEEK 1 | Seeking Safety
- WEEK 2 | The Power of Words
- WEEK 3 | Freedom to Move
- WEEK 4 | New Beginnings



Fox's Dancing Journey

A THOUGHTBOX STORY



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STORY SUMMARY: Fox and his friends embark on a long journey to find themselves a new home after the Great Fire of the Forest destroys their homes. After facing lots of unwelcoming people along the way, they finally find a place they can call home, but soon realise that everything is completely different to the way they used to do things back home...

A young child with light hair, wearing a light blue shirt and dark pants, is sitting on a wooden deck. To their left is a large, fluffy, light brown stuffed dog. The child is looking towards the stuffed dog. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with a wooden structure.

ThoughtBox

HOME

EXPLORING SOCIETY

KEY STAGE 1 & 2

Exploring the social issues of our time to develop a wider view and a deeper connection with others

Aims and Objectives

Pupils will practise skills of critical thinking & questioning, deep listening and empathy building. Lessons will encourage students to engage in empathic engagement with people experiencing homelessness, understanding some of the root causes of homelessness as well as how it might feel to be living without a home.

Lessons will explore and create ways to make people feel welcome, consider what the feeling of a home might be and understand ways to make a places into a home. They will consider some of the challenges that come with living without a home, and explore feelings of homesickness.

Questions explored:

- What is home?
- What makes a place a home rather than a house?
- What are some of the common ways that people make their houses feel like home?
- What does a home mean to you?
- What does it feel like to be homesick?
- What are some of the causes of homelessness?
- What are some of the biggest challenges of living without a home?
- What can we do to help people feel at home in our communities?

Contents of the topic

A downloadable box of lesson plans for KS1&2, with each week offering a 60 minute lesson on the following:

WEEK 1 | The culture of home

WEEK 2 | Feeling at home

WEEK 3 | Living without a home

WEEK 4 | Needing to belong



Badger's New House

A THOUGHTBOX STORY



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STORY SUMMARY: Badger is excited – he has just built himself a new house and is feeling very proud of his efforts. He invites some of his friends to come around and admire his fine new house, but soon realises that he has missed out the one vital ingredient in his building work – the feeling of home. How will Badger learn to make his house into a home?



HABITATS

EXPLORING THE NATURAL WORLD

KEY STAGE 1 & 2

Exploring the human –
nature relationship and
finding ways to build a more
balanced future

Aims and Objectives

Pupils will practise skills of critical thinking & questioning, deep listening and empathy building by engaging in a wide range of learning stimulus, discussion ideas and creative exercises. Lessons in this topic will examine some of the issues surrounding habitat loss because of human behaviour.

Pupils will explore and connect with some of the creatures and people living in the rainforest, exploring creative and empathic engagement to feel connected. They will learn about some of the threats to the natural world and think about how this might impact both living and non-living beings. They will engage with some of the wildlife closer to home and think about ways to live more harmoniously with nature in our local area.

Questions explored:

- Who lives in the Amazon Rainforest?
- What are some of their habits and habitats?
- What are some of the threats to the rainforest?
- What impact does human activity have on inhabitants of an area?
- Who are the people living in the forest?
- What can we learn from indigenous communities about how to live more harmoniously with nature?
- What actions can we take in our local communities to protect natural spaces?

Contents of the topic

A downloadable box of lesson plans for KS1&2, with each week offering a 60 minute lesson on the following:

WEEK 1 | Who else lives here?

WEEK 2 | Changing lands

WEEK 3 | Sharing space

WEEK 4 | Sustainable dwellings



Dormouse's Wobbly Tree

A THOUGHTBOX STORY



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STORY SUMMARY: One day, Dormouse is rudely awoken from her napping by her tree being chopped down and her home destroyed. Join Dormouse and Beaver on a journey of exploration, excitement and wobbly-tree-tipping adventures as she tries to save the hidden inhabitants of the woodland treetops... before it's too late!



WASTE

EXPLORING THE NATURAL WORLD

KEY STAGE 1 & 2

Exploring the human –
nature relationship and
finding ways to build a more
balanced future

Aims and Objectives

Students will practise skills of critical thinking & questioning, deep listening and empathy building by engaging in a wide range of learning stimulus, discussion ideas and creative exercises.

Lessons in this topic will examine some of the issues surrounding the rubbish that we make, helping pupils to understand why we produce so much rubbish as well as the impact of it on our natural landscape. Discussions will explore the ways in which nature deals with waste, thinking about the different sorts of waste that humans produce and ways we can all cut down on our waste. Students will work on a range of creative projects to explore, engage, inspire and empower others to cut down on the waste they are producing in their daily lives.

Questions explored:

- Where does our rubbish go when we throw it away (because there is no such place as 'away')?
- Why are we all producing so much rubbish?
- Why is there no waste in nature?
- What is the impact on the natural world of human rubbish?
- How does so much plastic pollution end up in the ocean?
- Whose responsibility is it to deal with our rubbish?
- How can we reduce the amount of rubbish we throw away?
- What does 'Zero-waste' mean?

Contents of the topic

A downloadable box of lesson plans for KS1&2, with each week offering a 60 minute lesson on the following:

WEEK 1 | What is all this stuff?

WEEK 2 | Where is 'away'?

WEEK 3 | How long 'til it's gone?

WEEK 4 | Waste-free living



Seagull's Ordinary Nest

A THOUGHTBOX STORY



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STORY SUMMARY: It is the annual nest-building competition on the beach, and Seagull is excited to enter for the first time. However, he soon realises that his nest-building skills are very different to the rest of the birds on the beach who all seem to be using plastic. Will he learn to build his nest in time in order to stand a chance of winning the grand nest-building prize?