

Let's talk

Circle time and thinking activities

These questions provide ways to get the children thinking and talking about all the things that contribute to making them who they are. It is important to encourage the children not simply to think about what they look like but to focus on their personal and social development.

1 What does the word 'identity' mean? Is there anyone in the world exactly like you? What makes you unique? What are identical twins? Are they identical in every way? If they look the same, how might they differ?

2 Can everyone be handsome or beautiful? Why/Why not? What is a lovely person? Is it possible for everyone to become a lovely person? What is the difference between a beautiful person and a lovely person? Which would you prefer to be?

3 Do some people enjoy school more than others? Why? Does everyone learn in the same way? How do you learn best? Do all teachers teach in the same way? What types of teachers do you prefer?

4 Does everybody behave in the same way at school as they do at home? Do people behave better or worse for their teachers than their parents? How do you feel before your parents read your school report or go to parents' evenings?

5 Are there some things that everyone has in common? What do you think most people need in life? Would this be the same whatever part of the world you lived in? Have schoolchildren got anything in common with babies or adults?



6 In which ways can people be different? Do you know anyone from a different culture or ethnicity? Are there any foods from other cultures that you really enjoy? Have you attended festivals and celebrations from other cultures?

7 What are the five senses? What would life be like if you lost the use of one of these senses? Which sense would it be hardest to live without? What is meant by *physical difficulty*?

8 Do you know everything there is to know about yourself? Does everybody have the same view of you? Do you think people always tell the truth about you to your face? Do you take notice when other people criticise you? Do your parents?

9 Would anyone like to change you? What might adults like to change about children? What might children like to change about adults? How do television and newspaper adverts try to change you? Have you ever changed your mind about what you'd like for Christmas after watching the television?

10 Are there certain times in your life when you had to make choices? Have you ever made the wrong choice? When do you think children are old enough to make choices? What choices do your parents make for you? Can adults make all of their own choices?