



Cool Kids

Aim:

To discuss negative implications of peer pressure.

Preparation and materials:

Blindfolds.

A packet of salt and vinegar crisps, a packet of cheese and onion crisps.

Examples of Liu Bolin's artwork.

Assembly:

Entry music: Cool kids, Echosmith

1. Ask for 4 volunteers and explain that they will be taking part in a taste test. They need to identify which cheese and onion crisps are Walkers and which are a cheaper, supermarket brand. Blindfold the first volunteer and leave the rest. Show the remaining volunteers that one packet is salt and vinegar, one is cheese and onion but ask them to play along. Once everyone has tasted the crisps, ask them to say which one was the 'cheap' version – ensuring the blindfolded player goes last. If they didn't say it was S&V - ask "Did you notice or why you didn't say? Were you afraid to stand out?" If they did say it was S&V not cheese and onion say - "well done for spotting the fake and not being afraid to stand out, well done for saying what was true and not just joining in".

Thinking about the song that we listened to at the beginning, and the mini experiment that we just did, what do you think this assembly will be about?

2. If no-one volunteers it, introduce the term peer pressure. What do you think it means? What might it look like at school? Have you ever kept quiet or not said your true opinion because you were worried about what everyone else would think?
3. We all face pressures every day to look and behave like the people around us. We want to fit in and be liked. This is normal. Sometimes peer pressure can be a good thing e.g. if our friends are all concentrating on their work then it will help us to do the same. However, blending in is not always a good thing. What might the consequences be of always blending in with the people around us? What virtues might we need to avoid always blending in?
4. Show examples of the artist Liu Bolin's work. Ask children if they can spot the artist in the pictures? What message do you think he is sending through his art? Liu Bolin felt like, by blending in to society, he was losing his individuality and he didn't feel valued by the people around him. How can we value each other's individuality?

The Character Curriculum

Flourishing for Life



Reflection:

Think about what makes you unique. How can you value and celebrate it?

Challenge:

Compliment people in your class this week on what makes them individual.

