

A COURTEOUS DEBATE - ROUND TWO



LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

To be able to justify our views with confidence and courtesy during a debate. To be able to respond to a range of different views with self-control and courtesy.

Suggested Resources:

Preferably a space in hall, chairs, etc. Children must remember to take their notes from the previous lesson.

Script:

Remind children of the previous lesson and that today they will debate the motion. Set out the parameters for the debate, focusing on its structure and how children should engage with the 'other side'. Explain that each side will take it in turns to support or disagree (oppose) the motion. You may decide to revisit the previous lesson to do this.

Character Coaching

Meaningful Praise:

I liked the way that you responded to the people on the other side of the debate in a respectful and courteous manner.

Suggested Activities:

If there is access to a hall, you may prefer to host the debate there and arrange the chairs in such a way that they are facing each other. The teacher should assume the role of 'Speaker' and chair the debate, calling each side in turn to make their points. During the debate, make a note of exceptional performance to recall in the plenary.

Plenary:

Explain to children that normally there would be an audience listening to the debate who would vote for or against the motion both before and after the debate. In lieu of this, ask children whether any of them changed their minds. What were the most persuasive points? Recall exceptional performances from children during the debate.

Correction:

If we simply disagree with someone without the courtesy of telling them why, do you think you are likely to persuade them of your point of view? How could you rephrase your response to make sure that you include as much relevant information as possible?

