

Disagreeing Well - Filmmaking/Multimedia

Aims:

To explore how you can help people to understand that disagreeing with someone's beliefs or opinions doesn't mean that you dislike or hate them as a person

To consider how you can explain that your beliefs are different from someone else's

To think about how you can encourage others to be curious, ask you about your beliefs and why you have them

To develop the art of listening and effective communication

To carry out a structured debate

Activity description

Pupils will reflect on how to manage disagreements effectively. They will utilise film-making skills to retell a classic story from religion on this topic.

Main activity:

Instruct the pupils to make a storyboard of 8-12 'frames' to retell the classic Indian fable of The Blind Men and an Elephant (this short animation tells a version of the story.-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vn9BUfUCL4I>). The pupils' retelling needs to be something that has different parts/elements so that it feels sufficiently different from the original story, whilst retaining the focus on reconciling differences.

A storyboard is like a visual script that shows what a film will look like before you shoot it; it's a bit like a comic book version of the film you want to make. A storyboard is made up of drawings and explanations of each shot to show where your actors/props will be placed and how they or the camera might move around the scene. Examples can be viewed through the links at the end of this activity.

As well as a brief explanation of each shot, make sure you add any dialogue (talking) that will be included in that shot into your storyboard.

Create stick puppets for your characters as well as making a backdrop to go behind them. Stick or tape lollipop sticks, pencils or paint brushes to the puppets so you can move them around without getting your hands in the shot. See below for some ideas and instructions.

You can tell the story whilst recording the video or if anyone in the group is a whiz at editing you can record a 'voiceover' afterwards for better sound quality. You might choose to have different people voice the different characters to share out the work.

Try to keep the film between 1-3 minutes long.

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Time required

1-2 hours (storyboards)

2-4 hours (creating props, filming and editing)

Materials required

STORYBOARDS

Paper, split into 4 to 6 'frames' (squares in which to draw your pictures) per sheet (you can find a pre-made template here: <http://srjcstaff.santarosa.edu/~kthornle/apgr66/storyboard.PDF>)

Pencil

Coloured pencils or crayons if you'd like to colour in the frames, though this isn't necessary

FILM

Paper or card, including a large piece to use as a background

Scissors

Lollipop sticks, pencils or paint brushes (for attaching to the puppets)

Paint, crayons or felt tip pens to colour in the puppets and background

Mobile phone, tablet or camcorder to shoot the film

Mobile phone, tablet or computer to edit it

Apps for video editing:

On mobile devices, you can use the FilmoraGo app to edit videos - <https://filmora.wondershare.com/filmorago-video-editing-app/> (tutorial - <https://youtu.be/KKiUewLBbxE>) or here are a few mobile alternatives - <https://www.educationalappstore.com/best-apps/5-best-apps-for-video-editing>

On a PC, you can edit videos using the Photos app (tutorial - <https://youtu.be/edKDxJ7C8HE>)

On a Mac, use iMovie (tutorial - <https://youtu.be/U1Hd60lwOyA>)

* Please ask your parent/guardian's permission before installing new apps



Filmmaking/Multimedia

Links to examples

Example storyboard -

<https://i.pinimg.com/originals/30/35/d6/3035d6944a6158b43f925561ce150f97.png>

How to Storyboard - First Light -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DVXMQMUDITs>

How to Storyboard a Scene with Smurfs Director Kelly Asbury -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wJXKRFgbnHA>

It's Not Fair (an example of a simple stick-puppet film) -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H5-oZ1EAoRQ>

How to make stick-puppets -

<https://www.auntannie.com/Puppets/StickPuppets/>

Some more stick puppet ideas -

<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/how-videos/how-make-stick-puppet>

The fable of the blind men and the elephant -

<https://americanliterature.com/author/james-baldwin/short-story/the-blind-men-and-the-elephant>

Filmmaking tips (some brief handy tips about making films on a phone or tablet) - <https://youtu.be/e1tNnWqz7eI>

