No Outsiders: We belong: Year 5



An inspiring story about colour

Text: Mixed- Aree Chung

Learning intention: To consider responses to racist behaviour

Enquiry question: How do I challenge racist behaviour?

Success criteria: I can recognise racism when I see it / I know how to challenge racist ideas

RSE objectives: Families and people who care for me: that others' families, either in school or in the wider world, sometimes look different from their family, but that they should respect those differences and know that other children's families are also characterised by love and care

Respectful Relationships: the importance of respecting others, even when they are very different from them (for example, physically, in character, personality or backgrounds), or make different choices or have different preferences or beliefs

Starter: What is racism? Come up with a class definition,

Main: Read Mixed, stop at significant points in the story to ask why characters are choosing those words or behaving that way. Predict what might happen next. Discuss things like:

- The first time Red shouts "Red's are best", how do the other colours respond?
- Is the Yellow response effective?
- How are the Blues responding? (talk about bystanders)
- What is the name for separating the town by colour? (Segregation)
- Why were the other colours unhappy about Yellow and Blue mixing?What did the colours learn at the end of the story?

Class activity: Talk about the responses from the other colours to Red shouting "Reds are best!". Why aren't the responses affective?

Role play with the children different responses; explore ways to respond to Red when they first shout they are best. You could argue back, or you could ask a question ("What do you mean?") Why is a question sometimes more effective.

Then role play response from the Blues; instead of being bystanders, what could the Blues say to stop the reds and yellows arguing?

Recording: How do you challenge racist ideas? Ask children to set out a conversation between Red and a Yellow and Blue couple.

Draw a red and in a speech bubble begin with something like "Colours should not mix! You two need to separate right now?!

Now draw and yellow and blue together and a speech bubble so that they respond. Would the Red change their mind right away? Draw a red and another speech bubble with their response. You want five or six speech bubbles going down the page showing the colours' conversation. Can you change Red's mind?

Plenary: Can people with racist ideas change? Yes, they can! There is a tattoo parlour in Texas where the owner removes racist tattoos for free. People donate money to him so that he can provide the service without charging. He can't remove the tattoo but he can cover it over, What does that show about people and ideas? How do ideas change? Why is this about No Outsiders?