

Lesson 5 – Curiosity Questions – Lesson Plan

Learning Objective	Teaching and Learning Activities
L.O To create, exchange and answer curiosity questions with the link class.	
Purpose of this Lesson	Session 1: Creating Questions
The purpose of this lesson is to explore ‘Who are we?’ as linked classes using ‘curiosity questions’. This will open up conversations to help children find out about each other in both class communities. This is important in building confidence in contact and is a valuable part of the process of moving from ‘them and us’ to a sense of ‘we together’ It is important to help children understand that they choose what they wish to share.	<p>Starter: Show children the title ‘Curiosity Questions’: What does Curiosity mean? Take responses as appropriate: oral responses, responses on small white boards, post it notes to collate? Show the definition ‘Eager to know or learn something’. Look at the modelled sentences on the PowerPoint to embed the meaning of the word in context. The book You Choose by Pippa Goodhart and Nick Sharratt can inspire children’s thinking about questions.</p> <p>Main Activity: Explain we are going to think of questions to ask the children. (This could be a class from a different school that you are linking with, a socially distanced class group within the same school year from your own school community or linking as an individual class to build relationships again due to the extended time apart.) It is important to find a way to share your ideas during this process. If children need to sit in a socially distanced setting these ground rules may still be possible.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anyone can scribe. 2. BUT ideas must be shared first and listened to by all. 3. Everyone needs to be involved in sharing ideas. 4. We can disagree BUT we do it respectfully. <p>Show some examples of curiosity questions (see the PPT). Give the children a few minutes to explore this activity.</p>
Key Questions	
Who are We? What do you want to find out about your School Linking partners? Or What do you want to find out about your link partners in the other class in school. What makes a question interesting? What are open and closed questions?	<p>Mini-Plenary: Introduce the idea of closed vs open questions. Open Questions will give us different answers and information that really tells us about that person, answers we could not guess. Take suggestions for open questions with children using the questions they have collated so far. e.g. What do you want to be when you grow up?</p> <p>Closed Questions. Discuss how closed questions will give us specific information perhaps about the whole class or group. e.g. What is the name of your class? Do you have a dining hall? Give the children time to collect more question ideas.</p>
Exchange Information	<p>Collate in groups or as a whole class to select 8 ‘open’ questions. These will be the questions we send. Collate any specific or ‘closed’ questions the children would like to know the answers to e.g. What is the name of your headteacher? Select a small number of these questions to send to the Linking Class. There are a range of ideas for ways to send in the box below that teachers have used.</p>
Exchange curiosity questions and responses with the link class. There are a variety of ways to exchange curiosity questions (see below).	
Family Engagement	<p>Plenary: Discuss feelings. How are the children feeling at this stage of their Linking Journey? If possible, reflect back on some of the children’s earlier responses and TOL about differences and similarities between their feelings now.</p>
<p>Thinking at Home - I think, you think... Ask at Home - Questions for discussing at home. Let’s Talk - Create a Curiosity Question Jar or use as a Speaking Activity</p>	
Resources	<p>Lesson PowerPoint Large sheets paper and felt tips Download from: https://thelinkingnetwork.org.uk/schools-linking-2020-2021/lesson-5-curiosity-questions/</p>

Possible resources needed depending on methods chosen:

Recording devices – iPad/camera (if chosen)
Computer access (if chosen)
Lollypop sticks (if chosen)

Digital guidance available:

How to add a voice over to PowerPoint
How to add multiple photos to PowerPoint
How to send large files
Children’s guide to filming an effective video
How to use Flipgrid
How to use Book Creator

<https://thelinkingnetwork.org.uk/schools-linking-2020-2021/digital-support/>

Additional TLN Resources

‘You choose’ by Pippa Goodheart and Nick Sharratt.
TLN Identity Pack. Family Stories.

Curriculum Links

See PSHE, Citizenship, RSHE, SMSC and English objectives that are addressed through the Linking Programme along with specific Computing objectives that could be addressed in this lesson:

<https://thelinkingnetwork.org.uk/schools-linking-2020-2021/teacher-cpd/>

Notes for Teachers

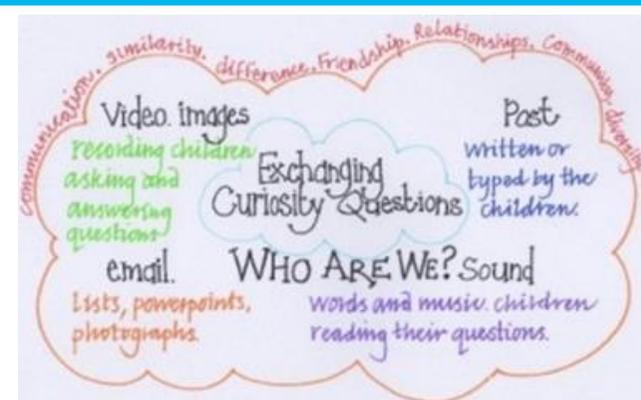
Sensitivity, awareness and understanding of your class and community is essential before exploring any activities relating to identity.

It can be useful to begin activities by sharing information about your own identity to help children be confident about sharing information about themselves. However, it is important to recognize that some children may be uncomfortable or may not wish to share some things. It is valuable to teach children that they should only share what they want to share. Activities are written with social distancing measures in mind with no shared objects or contact. At all stages, exchanges of information should be sent via teachers in line with their school policies.

Session 2: Exchanging Questions.

You may have decided with your Link Teacher how you will exchange - or in discussions with the class, choose a method of exchanging the curiosity questions. You could use Book Creator, PowerPoint, video, audio, photographs, email or another method you and the other teacher are familiar with.

In communications with your linking school try to agree a time frame for answering and sending back the replies so finding out the answers and reflecting upon the information can be planned and the time gap between this part of the process is not too long.



How to Guides available to support technical aspects of these exchanges if needed are available (see resource box)

Session 3: Answering Questions

Starter: When the curiosity questions from the link class have been received, share them with the children. There is no need to answer them at this stage, but this is a chance to build excitement about getting to know more about one another.

Main Activity: Remind children of how it felt to generate and send their own questions and what they were hoping to get back. Children should keep this in mind when answering the questions. Show the question **‘What’s your favourite food or meal?’** Show/model a couple of different answers: ‘I don’t know’ ‘Pizza’ ‘My favourite food are samosas because I make them with my brother and sister and each time, we make them slightly differently. My favourite is when we put peas in them because I love peas!’ Establish that the third model is the best one because it gives detail with the answer and allows the person who asked the question find out more about me.

It makes a great English lesson answering each question. Children draft an answer to the question/s, ensuring they expand and give detail to their answer. Or depending on how many questions have been sent through, you may wish to split the class into smaller groups and give one question to each group to answer. If this is the case, try and ensure that there is a mix of children in each group.

Plenary: As a teacher, or as a class, choose the method to send the answers back to the link class. Link teachers may have already decided at CPD1. Prepare your answers for sending and exchange.

Session 4: Reflecting on the Link Class’s answers

Allow time to share the link class’s answers to your curiosity questions and reflect on what the children have learned about each other and what they would still like to find out. This is such an interesting stage of the process.