

Teachers Notes Stage 2

Preparing for the Visitors *(in the classroom 1.5 hours approx)*

Pupils explore body language and the emotions and messages that they can convey as groups through a short drama exercise and are photographed ready to be incorporated into the photomontage ICT exercise in **Stage 3**.

They photograph or create a series of backgrounds to place these images in front of.

1. Group Pose Photos

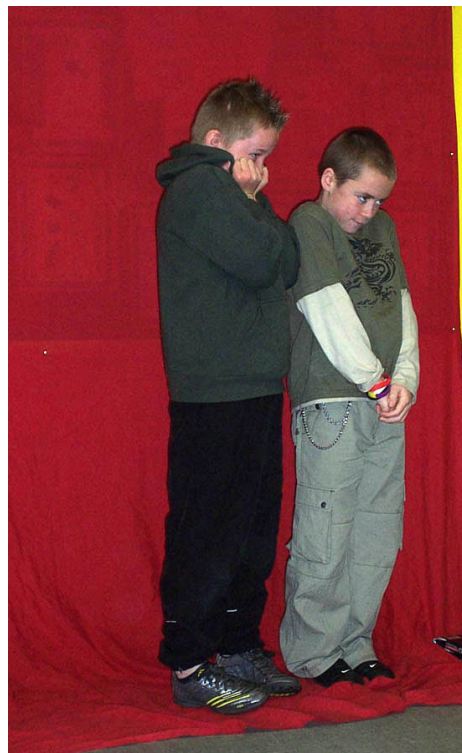
Begin with a discussion around how a group might receive a stranger or someone not known to them.

Make a list of words describing these responses.

e.g. puzzled, hostile, embarrassed, thoughtful, considerate, welcoming etc.

Next pupils work in small groups or pairs. They are each allocated an emotion from the list to act out and spend a few minutes discussing and deciding what they will do with their facial expressions and poses.

To make it easier for us to cut out the backgrounds of the digital photos that you are taking please hang up a coloured piece of fabric as a backdrop for pupils to pose against. Drape it so that enough is on the floor for pupils to stand on and ensure that the colour of the sheet is not the same as any of the pupil's clothes, shoes, skin colour etc



The group stand in front of the backdrop acting out their word (*eg. embarrassed*)

The rest of the class count 1.2.3... then clap and the group 'freeze' and hold their poses.

Now take the digital photo making sure that the whole group is in front and on top of the coloured background so that it completely surrounds the figures in your frame. It's always worth double checking the framing and focus of your image.



Repeat this process for the remaining groups.

Once you have taken your group photos send them to us ASAP so that we can delete the backgrounds and return them to you ready for incorporating into the photomontage images for the next stage of the project.

2. Creating Backgrounds for your Photomontages

You will need to find and photograph a series of backgrounds to locate the figures in. These can be around the school both inside and out or may be in the surrounding streets, town centre, park or any location where groups of children might meet.

This can be carried out by the teacher or by groups of the pupils



Alternatively backgrounds can be created for the next stage using painting, clay, collage or any other art process. They could be representational or abstract – an expressive piece of work that explores the shape and colours that describe the mood and atmosphere of a scene or a meeting between people.

Remember that these are to be captured digitally so need not be permanent and may be 2 or 3 dimensional or a digitally combined image *see examples below*



Size and Resolution of Digital Photographs

The images you are taking are to be used within PowerPoint slides which are 960(w) x 720(h) pixels in size so need not be very large or of a high resolution.

A small to medium ('standard' or 'good') quality setting on your digital camera will probably be about right for the group pictures (approx 640 x 480 pixels portrait) and a medium setting for the background (approx 1024 x 768 pixels landscape) for the landscape pictures.

Keeping the image smaller will make it easier for you to exchange them with us and for pupils to montage later without losing out on the quality of the image too much.