

Teacher's notes



Below are some brief notes for the teacher to use when planning their lesson (full lesson plans are also available).

Lesson 1 – An introduction to the social construction of childhood.

This lesson is designed to introduce them again to the idea of childhood being a social construction. The lesson follows like this:

- 1) PowerPoint – General information to re-introduce them to the ideas around this discussion (slides 1-3)
- 2) A 'drop and drag' activity – This will test them on some of the key ideas about social construction.
- 3) PowerPoint – This slide will introduce the western idea of childhood to them (slide 4)
- 4) 'Laws' activity – This activity will ask them to fill in the gaps using information they know about laws surrounding children.
- 5) PowerPoint – This re-introduces the idea of using cross-cultural evidence to argue that childhood is socially constructed. (Slides 5- 6)

Lesson 2 – Social construction of childhood part 2

This lesson is designed to recap some information that has already been introduced and to develop the knowledge that has already been acquired.

1. PowerPoint – To introduce the idea of childhood changing over time (Slides 1-4)
2. 'Shoot out' activity – This activity will test them on information about historical differences in the idea of childhood.
3. PowerPoint – This will explain how and why the modern idea of childhood came about as well as the idea of the disappearance of childhood (Slides 5-6).
4. General test on childhood (drop and drag)

Lesson 3 – Gender and education – differences in achievement

This lesson is designed to recap information on gender differences (the focus is on girls achievement).

- 1) Introduce aims and objectives – Power Point (slides 1-2)
- 2) Take them to the national statistics web site to have a look at key trends in gender and education

- 3) Power Point (slides 3-4) and then introduce the 'external/internal' activity. (get them to try and identify the relevant factors on the list)
- 4) Introduce external factors on Power Point (slides 5-7)
- 5) Introduce activity – 'Walk the Plank' activity on external factors – Then go over objectives of the lesson and recap

Lesson 4 – Gender and education – differences in achievement

This lesson is designed to recap information on gender differences (the focus is on boys underachievement).

1. Introduce aims and objectives of the lesson – recap over girl's and educational achievement (Power Point slides 1-3)
2. Introduce boys and underachievement (Power Point 4) and have a look at the Guardian web site with the whole group to find a relevant article on boys and underachievement
3. Activity – Gender and fill in the gaps sheet
4. Conclusion – (PowerPoint 9) review and recap aims and objectives

Lesson 5 – Gender and subject choice

This lesson is designed to recap information on gender and subject choice. The focus is on why girls and boys tend to pick different subjects.

- 1) Introduce aims and objectives – (Power Point – slides 1-3)
- 2) Activity on explanations of differences in subject choice – Try and get them to guess the relevant explanations
- 3) Power Point (slides 4-7) on explanations of subject choice
- 4) True or false game on explanations of subject choice
- 5) Conclude and review and recap aims and objectives of lesson. Could refer back over the last 3 lessons