

Finders Keepers?

Investigate personal values with this etho/horoscope

Use personality descriptions (ethoscopes) like a horoscope, with different values and attitudes, to investigate personal values, how these are affected by circumstances and understanding the validity of other people's ethics and values.

Age range

This activity is aimed at Key Stages 2, 3 and 4.

Curriculum links

Literacy; Citizenship.

Aims

To understand that people have different ethics/values.

To be able to argue the case for different ethics and values.

Materials required

You will need one copy of the etho /horoscope sheet per child or small group. You can produce your own or download it from www.dep.org.uk/. Also a flipchart or chalkboard with the twelve etho /horoscope star signs listed.

Instructions

- 1 Distribute the etho /horoscope sheet.
- 2 Ask your pupils to read each scope and circle the one which most closely reflects their own attitude and how they would behave.
- 3 Then ask them to write two or three reasons in the second column why they would behave like this. (For younger children you might have some suggestions prepared.)
- 4 Swap the sheet with another person / small group and in the third column write two or three reasons why they **would not** behave in this way.
- 5 Return the sheets, choose a different etho /horoscope and repeat points 3 and 4 a number of times.
- 6 Ask your pupils to read out the arguments for and against and ask if anyone has changed their mind about how they would behave. If so, ask them to put two circles round their new preference.
- 7 Tell them to put a tick on the flipchart next to their final choice of scope.
- 8 As a whole class discuss the results. Are some behaviours more popular than others? Have some not been picked at all? Why not? How would you feel if you saw someone acting in those ways? If you knew someone was watching you would this change your behaviour? Why? Would it make any difference if it were £100? £1000?

Extension

Write a different word to describe the attitude in each star sign (such as Selfish; Law-abiding). Can you think of a saying or phrase which show how people view them? For example: 'Virtue is its own reward'; 'Charity begins at home', and so on.

The Etho / Horoscopes

SIGN	REASONS WHY	REASONS AGAINST
<p>Leo</p> <p>You are feeling lucky today. You find £10 and spend it on a treat for yourself.</p>		
<p>Virgo</p> <p>Here's an opportunity to help others. You find £10, buy <i>The Big Issue</i> and give the rest to Oxfam, but tell no one.</p>		
<p>Libra</p> <p>Here is a chance to show how much you like your friends. You find £10 and buy everyone a treat.</p>		
<p>Scorpio</p> <p>You like to set a good example. You find £10 and give it to charity, but make sure everyone knows.</p>		
<p>Sagittarius</p> <p>Obedying the law is important. You find £10 and give it to the police so they can return it to the owner.</p>		
<p>Capricorn</p> <p>You're in a lazy mood.. You see £10 in the road but leave it for the owner to find, or let someone else decide what to do.</p>		

SIGN

REASONS WHY

REASONS AGAINST

Aquarius

You find it hard to make decisions. When you find £10 in the street, ask your friends what to do with it.

Pisces

You're hard up today. A £10 note you find in the street will really help – your need is greater than anyone else's.

Aries

You are busy enjoying yourself, but having fun takes cash! You walk past £10 without noticing it, but when your friend picks it up you expect to share it.

Taurus

You need new shoes. A £10 note in the street is the answer to your prayers, but there are people worse off than you. Give half to charity and keep the rest.

Gemini

Look after Number One! When you find £10 in the street put it in your pocket to spend later – and hurry away from the person who is obviously looking for it.

Cancer

Write your own!