Ellison P4C Week





What is P4C?

Philosophy for Children, or P4C, is an approach to teaching and learning, in which children participate in philosophical enquiry. It enhances thinking and communication skills, boosts confidence and self-esteem. Through P4C children learn to listen to each other, to reason, to build on others ideas and to debate in a healthy and respectful way. Children also have lots of fun, exploring different ideas and getting to give their opinions and views in a safe and judgment free environment. P4C is suitable for children of any age, it is used in Oakland's Nursery for example and is beneficial for teachers and parents too.

Here are some fun activities to celebrate P4C week.

We would love you to share your learning and facts with us either by email or on our school twitter.

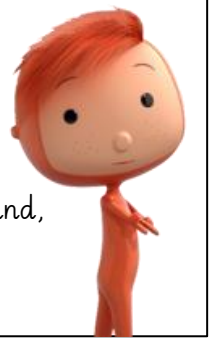
@EllisonPrimary

☺ Enjoy!

What's the Big Idea?

What's the Big Idea? Is a BBC children's show, where Hugo goes on a philosophical journey looking at the big questions that children have. Questions like, "Why do people feel sad?" or "Can it ever be good to be angry?" There are over 50 episodes and each one is only around five minutes long. Try to watch a few, how do you feel about the subject? Have you seen anything to change your mind, or see something differently?

BBC iPlayer Link.



Banksy

The elusive street artist Banksy has created a piece called 'Game Changer' that has gone on display, nicely framed, at Southampton General hospital.

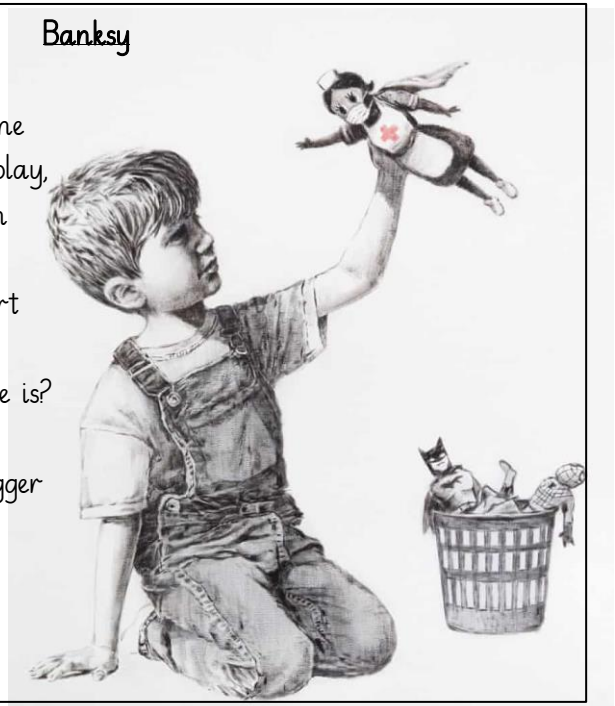
What big questions does this art make you think of?

What do you think the message is?

What does it mean to you?

Click the link below to see a bigger version of the image.

Google Drive Link.



SAPERE P4C

SAPERE are a charity who's aim is to promote philosophy for children. They have numerous activities to do at home during this time, these three are our favourites.

One Word Each

In this game you work together to form sentences where each person takes it in turn to add a word. Try making a long sentence or sentences in pairs., or in groups, going around and adding one word each. Give different people a chance to start by giving the first word and deciding which direction to send it. Give the sentences marks out of five for being funny, sensible or creative. Why not make a whole story. You could even develop proverbs by starting with 'always' or 'never'.

I am the Sun

This is a good game to try and connect words, people and ideas. One person starts by saying I am (something) for example "I am the sun." Then the next person says I am (something connected/goes with) for example "I am the moon." Continue to take it in turns, the next person has to say something that links and connects to both, for example "I am the light." Give others a chance to go first. Go again, this time give reasons for what you said.

What's More Important?

Make an everyday task more engaging and thoughtful by engaging everyone in the planning and review with this task.

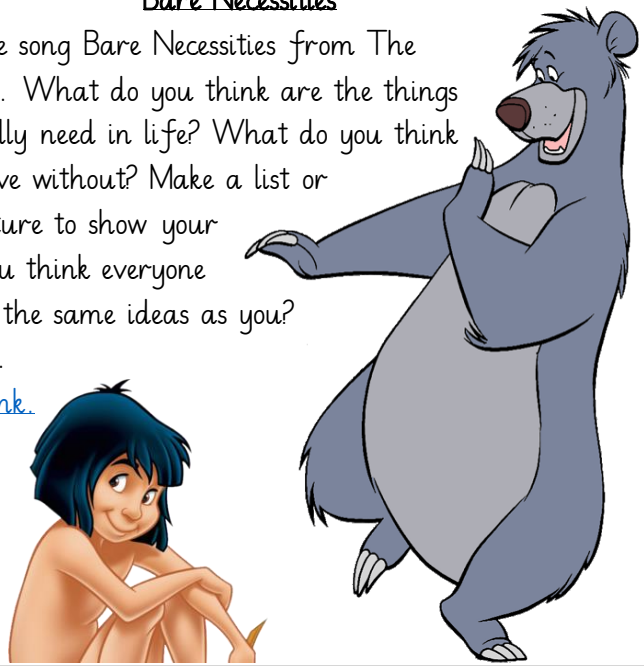
SAPERE P4C PDF Link.



Bare Necessities

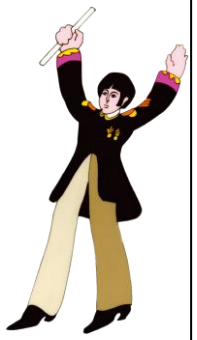
Listen to the song Bare Necessities from The Jungle Book. What do you think are the things that we really need in life? What do you think you could live without? Make a list or draw a picture to show your ideas. Do you think everyone would have the same ideas as you? Explain why.

YouTube Link.



All You Need Is Love

Listen to this classic song by the Beatles, written in 1967 by John Lennon.
What does the song make you think of?
What does love mean?
Is love all you really need?
If not what else?
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_7xMflp-irg



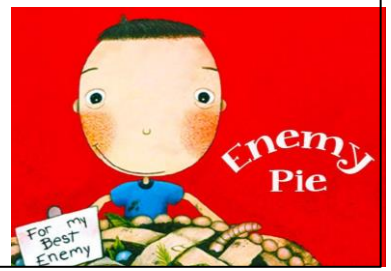
Mirror Discussion

Look at this picture of a cat looking in the mirror.
What do you notice about the picture?
Why do you think the cat looks like a lion in the mirror?
What do you notice about yourself when you look in the mirror?
What are some other unexpected things you might see in a mirror?
For example what would a puppy see?
Draw your favourite mirror images and explain your ideas.



Enemy Pie

In this story, written by Derek Munson, a young boy has a problem with a new enemy and neighbour, Jeremy. With help from his Dad, he learns about friendship, kindness and giving people a chance.
Do you think it is O.K to have enemies?
Do you have to like everyone?
If you don't like someone what should you do?
Can your opinion about people change?
https://youtu.be/b_19NgXKtC8



Big Questions

Here are some big questions for you to explore and discuss. Remember there are lots of answers to each question. You could also record your thoughts or create some artwork to show your ideas to the question.
Is it worse to fail at something or never attempt it in the first place?
What is true happiness?
What makes you YOU?
What makes a good friend?
What is art?
Is it more important to be liked or respected?
Can you think of some of your own big questions to explore?



For the Birds

https://www.literacyshed.com/for-the-birds.html
Here is a P4C exercise from the Literacy Shed. Watch the video and then discuss what the video tells us. Does it have a message? Children will often say that the small birds were mean to the big bird because he is different. This sparks the debate. Who are the mean ones? Why are they mean? Are any of the small birds worse then others? Is there a moral to the story? Could we give it a new title?

What if?

What if questions are a fantastic way to encourage imaginative thinking: What if dogs could read?
What if I had a magic carpet?
What if everything I touched turned to gold?
What if everybody lied - all the time?
What if it rained orange juice?
Have a go at the what if game. The first person starts with a question: What if you were invisible? The next person responds: Then I'd be able to play tricks on people.
The first person then asks:
What if you could play tricks on people?
Keep going until you run out of steam.

