

Into the OUTSIDE

Education Resources

Belonging



Helen Cammock & Dean Atta
January 2018



Contents

3 Background

4 Introduction

Activities

5 Group Sculpt

Photography

Duration 30-60 minutes

6 Talk About Belonging

Discussion

Duration 15-30 minutes

7 I Come From...

Creative Writing

Duration 30-60 minutes



Photo credits
Left: Jay & George
Right: Caitlin Kentish

Building a contemporary queer youth archive

A creative collective of young people aged 13-25 identifying as LGBTQ+ re-examines Brighton & Hove's rich LGBTQ+ history, creating a new archive of queer youth experiences. This heritage-learning project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund is delivered by Photoworks in collaboration with Brighton & Hove Libraries Services, the Mass Observation Archive and the East Sussex Record Office. Many other organisations from across the city are also involved including local schools, Brighton Museum & Art Gallery, Queer in Brighton and Allsorts Youth Project.

About these resources

Guidance, advice and ideas for professionals working with young people who want to raise awareness of and explore LGBTQ+ issues.

The activities are suitable for youth workers and teachers working in a range of settings with young people aged 13+. They can be used to support professionals running LGBTQ+ youth groups, delivery of the Citizenship or PSHE Curriculum in school, or for general youth work.

Each resource refers back to content on the Into the Outside website: www.intotheoutside.org.uk, making use of the rich collection of images, artwork, voices, creative writing and archive material.

Each resource includes a series of high-quality, creative activities using discussion, photography and creative writing.



Photo credit
Jay & George

Belonging

Needing to belong is an essential part of the human condition. Recognising where you belong, feeling part of a family, or connected to a community that accepts and understands you, and having a sense of belonging is part of developing a strong sense of identity.



Photography

Group Sculpt

Duration 30-60 minutes

This activity is designed for general youth settings. The purpose of the activity is to promote discussion about the significance of feeling a sense of belonging, increase knowledge of the issues involved, understand other people's experiences and develop awareness and empathy. This activity also aims to develop visual and emotional literacy. Group Sculpt is a great way to work together to visually represent emotions, ideas and situations.

Look at, Read, Listen to

- Mally's Anime series and the poem Anime
www.intotheoutside.org.uk/youth-collectives/into-the-outside/artwork/mally/
- Carlos's artwork – Trans Pride
www.intotheoutside.org.uk/youth-collectives/into-the-outside/artwork/carlos/
- Bette's artwork
www.intotheoutside.org.uk/youth-collectives/into-the-outside/artwork/bette/
- Willow's artwork
www.intotheoutside.org.uk/youth-collectives/into-the-outside/artwork/willow/
- Bryony's artwork
www.intotheoutside.org.uk/youth-collectives/into-the-outside/artwork/bryony/
- Voices in this section
www.intotheoutside.org.uk/tag/belonging+voices/

For this activity you will need a large uncluttered background such as a wall, school hall, park or sports field.

1. Each person chooses one image that they particularly like, or dislike and makes a response to the work. What feelings do the images evoke? Ask each person to write down five words that describe these feelings.
2. Using the heading 'A Feeling of Belonging' ask each person to expand on their five words – turning each word into a sentence that relates to the theme.
3. Next, ask the group what they think about the importance of feeling as though you belong. This dialogue is key to how people will work together in the group sculpt exercise.
4. Ask the group to come up with a list of words that express what it is to have a sense of belonging. For example: what makes you feel like you belong, and which experiences or situations make you feel like you don't.

Please note: if you are working with a large group, it might be easier to split them into two for this part of the activity.

5. Each person writes a short statement capturing something about belonging that is then folded up and placed in a bag. Examples might be: friendship, loneliness, being an outsider, being different, finding your own path, independence, being part of a team, family life, culture, religion, particular fashion or style, or liking a certain band.
6. Each person then takes it in turns to be a:
 - Director • Photographer • Body

The director picks a piece of paper from the bag, and moves 'the bodies' around to create a scene that enacts the statement they selected. The photographer captures an image of the group once the director is happy with the scene they have staged.

7. At the end of each group sculpt, discuss how successful each sculpt is in representing the specific statements about belonging.



Discussion

Talk About Belonging

Duration 15-30 minutes

This activity is designed for general youth settings. The purpose of the activity is to promote discussion about the significance of feeling a sense of belonging, increase knowledge of the issues involved, understand other people's experiences and develop awareness and empathy. This activity also aims to develop visual and emotional literacy.

Look at, Read, Listen to

- Mally's Anime series and the poem Anime
www.intotheoutside.org.uk/youth-collectives/into-the-outside/artwork/mally/
- Carlos's artwork – Trans Pride
www.intotheoutside.org.uk/youth-collectives/into-the-outside/artwork/carlos/
- Bette's artwork
www.intotheoutside.org.uk/youth-collectives/into-the-outside/artwork/bette/
- Willow's artwork
www.intotheoutside.org.uk/youth-collectives/into-the-outside/artwork/willow/
- Bryony's artwork
www.intotheoutside.org.uk/youth-collectives/into-the-outside/artwork/bryony/
- Voices in this section
www.intotheoutside.org.uk/tag/belonging+voices/



Photo credit
Jay & George

1. Each person chooses one image that they particularly like, or dislike and makes a response to the work. What feelings do the images evoke? Ask each person to write down five words that describe these feelings.
2. Using the heading 'A Feeling of Belonging', ask each person to expand on their five words – turning each word into a sentence that relates to the theme.
3. Either in pairs or a group, each person shares what they have done. Together discuss why having a sense of belonging is important.



Creative Writing

I Come From...

Duration 30-60 minutes

This activity is designed for general youth settings. The purpose of the activity is to promote discussion about the significance of feeling a sense of belonging, increase knowledge of the issues involved, understand other people's experiences and develop awareness and empathy.

Read

- I Come From by Dean Atta
www.intotheoutside.org.uk/voices/dean-atta/i-come-from/



Photo credit
Jay & George

1. Ask the group which lines of the poem they can relate to in any way. Go around the group and ask each person to answer the question "Where are you from?" with the first thing that comes to mind. Participants must answer without naming a place. Ask what their answers might reveal (if anything) about their identity.
2. Discuss what it feels like to be asked that question and how they might answer differently if asked again with time to think.
3. Ask everyone to write their own "I Come From" poem using the same format as Dean Atta's, where each line beginning with the words "I come from..." The poem can reflect on their personal and family history, heritage and other aspects of identity.

