



LESSONS FROM THE PAST
LEARNING
FOR THE FUTURE

“Packing Up”
Activity and Rationale
KS3



Activity

1. Place the students in groups of 4 to 6. Distribute a suitcase image, a pad of post it notes and a pencil to each group.
2. The teacher should read out the following statement: You are about to immigrate with your immediate family to a country far away that you have never visited. You know that you will never return to the country of your birth and that it is unlikely that you will ever be able to afford to have more of your belongings shipped out at a later date. You must decide what to pack in the one suitcase you are allowed to bring remembering that you must be able to carry it over fairly long distances and it does not have a shoulder strap, wheels or a long handle. The contents of your suitcase will be all you own in your new home so choose carefully.
3. The students will conduct an oral brainstorm about the types of item they would want to bring and then discuss the merits of each option. When they are ready they will write one item on each post it sheet and stick it to their suitcase image.
4. When all the groups have completed their task the suitcase images with their choices can be swapped around the room so that the students can compare the items that they chose to pack with the items chosen by other groups.

As an extension of this activity the group leader or teacher may want to get the groups to examine the commonality and variation from group to group. This could lead to a discussion about why certain popular choices were made.

Rationale

Suggested learning intentions

In this activity pupils will:

- listen attentively and for specific information
- explain information, ideas and opinions clearly
- practice working with their peers to reach agreements and work together making decisions in collaboration with each other and managing disagreements
- take part in discussions and show understanding of other's ideas by making valid contributions
- listen actively and share opinions
- develop routines of turn-taking and cooperating
- respect the views and opinions of others, reaching agreements using negotiation & compromise
- ask questions to explore and develop ideas
- have opportunities to justify ideas and opinions
- explore and examine what influences our views, feelings and behaviour
- explore their understanding of more than one point of view
- use imagination to explore different points of view