

Seven blind mice – what do they see?

- Perspective

EXPLANATION:

Based on an Indian fable, *Seven Blind Mice* details the perspectives of six mice as they try to determine what is standing by the pond. It is only when the seventh mouse explored all the parts that they were able to decide what the object was! This activity requires students to understand how presenting an issue from various vantage points adds multiple layers of meaning – understanding other perspectives.

YEAR LEVELS: Years 1 - 3

STUDENT GROUPING: Whole class

ACTIVITY LENGTH: 40 – 60 mins

LINK TO CURRICULUM:

English: Sequence of content F-6

Strand: Literacy

- Listening and speaking interactions (Purposes and contexts through which students engage in listening and speaking interactions)
- Listening and speaking interactions (Skills students use when engaging in listening and speaking interactions)

See also Personal and Social Capability learning continuum sub elements:

- Appreciate diverse perspectives
- Communicate effectively

5. Discuss how each seven mice had a different point of view even though they were talking about the same "strange something" in their pond - an elephant. Ask students questions:
 - Why might each of the first 6 mice have a different perspective?
 - What are they seeing?
6. Draw out the students understanding of different people's point of views. For example:
 - Considering the whole picture and combining everyone's ideas
 - Part of a whole story
 - Two or more sides to every story
7. The inquiry can be completed with a discussion as to why it is important to consider the perspectives of others.
 - Have you and a friend ever seen the same thing in different ways?
 - How do you feel when someone doesn't agree with what you see?
 - Are other people's perspectives as important as ours?
 - Why do people have different perspectives?
 - Why is it important to try to consider the whole picture?

RESOURCES

Young, E., (2002). Seven Blind Mice, Puffin Books

Online video: The Kindness Curriculum – Seven Blind Mice , Read by Bianca Chatfield sourced from https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=13&v=mYglMKt_hHw&feature=emb_logo

