

Resources

- Lesson 2 PowerPoint slides
- 'What would happen if we were all the same?' worksheets (one per learner)

Learning activity

- Do we all need the same things to grow and thrive?

Curriculum Area

- Health and Wellbeing. Literacy and English.

Learning intentions

- I understand that everyone needs different tools and approaches to thrive and that makes us stronger.

Success criteria

- I can explain that people learn and grow in different ways.
- I can explain and give examples of biodiversity and neurodiversity.
- I can explain why differences make a group or team stronger.

Opportunities for discussion and reflection

- Do we all need the same to grow and thrive?
- What would happen if we were all the same?
- If we were all the same, what could me miss out on?

Opportunities for assessment

- Observation
- Discussion
- Self-reflection
- Peer feedback
- Exit ticket

Lesson plan

Context

Dyslexia Awareness Week Scotland is an annual campaign to increase understanding of dyslexia and how it affects people. The national week is led by Dyslexia Scotland.

This lesson is lesson two of three. The three lessons explore dyslexia, hidden differences and the idea that everyone's brains work differently. From this, learners will think about what enables them to learn effectively and what are the right tools for the job.

PowerPoint contents:

- Learning intention
- 'Becoming Wise for my Size' poster
- Wisery definitions
- Where would each plant bloom?
- What would happen if we were all the same?
- If we were all the same, what could we miss out on?
- Reflection
- Nominations
- Extension ideas (optional)
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Activity

1. 'Becoming Wise for my Size' (slides 3 - 7)

Reshare the 'Wise for my Size' poster and recap the 'Becoming Wise for my Size' nomination process for this lesson.

Use the 'Wisery' definitions on the presentation slides and discuss each phrase as a class.

2. Where would each plant bloom? (slide 8)

Share the slide of the 4 different plants. Which would survive in a desert/dark forest/ rainforest/windowsill? Did all the flowers need the same things? What might each one need to grow? Little Flower didn't need to be fixed – just the right conditions to grow.

3. Worksheet: What would happen if we were all the same? (slides 9 - 10)

Worksheet task: Ask learners to draw two gardens on the worksheet: a 'Garden of Limited Diversity', with one plant, one animal and one type of weather; and a 'Garden of Biodiversity', with a variety of plants, animals and conditions.

Reflection questions: Use their drawings to discuss what might happen if plants looked the same, needed the same conditions, grew in the same place? Would nature be able to survive and thrive?

If Little Flower needed different conditions to grow, what might different brains need to learn and thrive? Explain that in the same way, brains work differently (neurodiversity) and dyslexia is one example. It is not about intelligence, but about the brain processing information differently.

4. If we were all the same, what could we miss out on? (Slide 10)

Focus on personal likes/dislikes – favourite food, colour, animal, sport etc. What if everyone had to learn in the same way? Ask, based on their answers, what would life be like if everything was red, the only animal was a cat, we ate chicken nuggets at every meal etc. Mix up their suggestions to provide different scenarios. What if we all had the same talents or thought in the same way? Would we solve problems as well? Would we invent as many solutions to problems? If we were all the same, what could we lose?

5. Plenary – We Reflect (slide 11)

We all like different things. How can our different ideas, skills and favourite things help us all? Sometimes we like the same things too, and that can help us feel connected.

6. Close with nominations: who has been ‘Wise for their Size’ today? (slide 12)

Sharing your success:

Learners can send their reflections on the lesson to Dyslexia Scotland at:
dyslexiascotland.org.uk/tell-your-story

Educators can share a reflection on the lesson at:
dyslexiascotland.org.uk/be-a-changemaker