

Become a Care Home Friend Challenge: Notes for Teachers/Leaders

Week 1: “Thinking about different age groups”

Welcome to Week 1 of our ‘Become a Care Home Friend’ Challenge! Thank you for supporting young people to take part and become Care Home Friends.

Background

Just as a reminder, we’re [Care Home FaNs: Intergenerational Linking](#) and we’re currently running the biggest intergenerational project with care homes in England.

We wanted to give more children across England the opportunity to engage in intergenerational work with care homes and have fun whilst learning, so we created this 10 week challenge!

Through the challenge, children will:

- Think more about different ages and different generations
- Learn about care homes and the people that live and work in them
- Make/write something to share with a nearby care home

Week 1

The first two weeks of our challenge are designed to get children thinking about older people and prepare them for connecting with a care home. The activities have been tested in the classroom and lay the groundwork for intergenerational connections.

In this first week of activities, children start by thinking about different age groups. They consider the question “How ‘old’ is old?”, reflect on the advantages of being different ages and learn about how people from all generations can do amazing things.

Older children (KS3) are also given the opportunity to begin exploring age stereotypes and are inspired by Jenny Joseph’s poem, ‘Warning’.

We have launched our challenge this week because it is Global Intergenerational Week, a week celebrating good practice, ideas, moments and opportunities where different age groups come together and intergenerational friendships can be formed.

Things to consider

- The activities can be done in a different order if preferred, or you may wish to just choose one or two.
- When asking young people to find out a little more about the achievements of the featured people, the following website links may be useful:

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Greta Thunberg | https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/kids-club/cool-kids/general-kids-club/greta-thunberg-facts/ |
| David Attenborough | https://www.biographyonline.net/scientists/david-attenborough.html |
| Kamala Harris | https://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/vice-president-harris/ |
| Barack Obama | https://www.whitehouse.gov/about-the-white-house/presidents/barack-obama/ |
| Malala Yousafzai | https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/peace/2014/yousafzai/facts/ / https://malala.org/malalas-story |
| Marcus Rashford | https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/59226107 |
| Tim Peake | https://blogs.esa.int/exploration/category/astronauts/tim-peake/ / https://www.timpeake.com/ |
| Marley Dias | https://www.marleydias.com/about/ |
| Captain Tom Moore | https://captaintom.org/ |
| Katherine Johnson | https://www.nasa.gov/content/katherine-johnson-biography |

- You may wish to include an older person from your local area who may be inspirational to children and young people.
- With any conversations about older people, be sensitive to the individual circumstances of young people; for example some may have recently lost a grandparent and these conversations may be a trigger for this.