

ME + US INVESTIGATOR ISSUE 2

A Great Start to Me + Us! >

Over the past few weeks, five Local Investigation Teams have completed Session 1 of Me + Us. Session 1 began with an introduction to Children's Parliament and the Me + Us project, in which you are all investigators/artists. We talked about self-portraiture and investigated some examples from famous artists to see what we could learn about them from their self-portraits.

Then we started to think about our individual identities and how we might portray ourselves in art. Using magazines and newspapers we created collages of all the things that we decided make us who we are - likes/dislikes, interests, nationality, personal characteristics, etc. For the final activity of the day, we created family crests, using symbols to represent the members and/or interests of our families. Some important words from Session 1 include: identity, pride, heritage, beliefs and tolerance. It was a great day and we look forward to Session 2! Good work, everyone!

Collage (n.)

Taking different images and putting them together to make one big image that represents something.



Portrait (n.)

An artist's impression of someone



The Me+Us word wall lets us introduce, discuss and define some of the topics that we are investigating during Me+Us. The Dyce team suggested that we were like Collin and that we could collect these definitions to make a kind of dictionary...

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The St. Mary's investigation team begin their Me collages by finding images.

Whats to expect in session 2 >

During session 2 we will look at some more examples and techniques from contemporary and historical art to discuss and interpret our Me+Us topics.

The main topic we will be dealing with is the idea of a stereotype - in art this is sometimes called an archetype and can be generally thought of as a very typical representation of a kind of person.

Throughout the session we will be looking at the way artists have represented these archetypes before and we will be trying to think of types of people that we recognise in our culture today. We will be thinking about what qualities people can have and how these can make other people feel.

We will have new words for our word wall and we will have new photographic activities to help in our creative investigations.

Culture (n.)

The things that define society

Heritage (n.)

Things that you get from your family and where you are from.

Activity Reminders >

For session 2 we asked if you could **interview** an adult in your life. This could be achieved using the help of the interview booklet we handed out at the end of session 1. We hope that you thought of some extra questions and that you are finding out lots of interesting new facts about your chosen person. Remember that you can use your sketchbooks to keep a note of anything else you would like to share with the group during the second session. Did you find the interviews easy? What were your initial thoughts when you heard about session 2's theme of 'stereotypes', write them down and we can discuss them.

We also hope that you are finding time to finish off your **collages** and **family crests**. These looked fantastic when we left you at the end of session 1 and we look forward to seeing them when we meet again for our second session.

One last thing, if you didn't have a chance to photograph/scan your **objects** last time then bring them along as you will be able to do this during session 2.



The Auchinraith and Calder side investigation team take time to set up their objects to be photographed. All of the objects that we photograph during the sessions will be stored digitally and available to use in our final lifesize portraits. We will use these objects within our collage as symbols to talk about ourselves, our cultural heritage and our identity.

We will be seeing you soon, but if you want to contact us before then we can be reached at the Children's Parliament Offices, Summerhall Square, Edinburgh, EH9 1PF or email us at chelsea@childrensparliament.org.uk / ross@childrensparliament.org.uk or call us on 0131 558 9030.

