

Curiosity - Novice High

Positive Psychology Learning Outcomes: Students will learn what curiosity is and share topics they are curious about, and they will understand that people are curious about different subjects and respect those differences.

Language Learning Outcomes: Students will connect content to background knowledge, identify a speaker's point of view and understand main ideas, and converse about topics familiar to them and ask questions about topics they may not be familiar with.

Lesson Information

Positive Psychology Learning Outcomes

Students will...

1. learn what curiosity is and share topics they are curious about.
2. understand that people are curious about different subjects and respect those differences.

Language Learning Outcomes

Students will...

1. connect content to background knowledge.
2. identify a speaker's point of view and understand main ideas.
3. converse about topics familiar to them and ask questions about topics they may not be familiar with.

Materials Needed

- Conversation prompt cards in [Activity 3](#)
- Video: [National Geographic--Curiosity](#)

Overview

The definition of curiosity is the desire to know about something.

Activate Background Knowledge

Have students make a list of topics they're interested in. Discuss as a class and make a list on the board. Explain that all of the list items are examples of what they're curious about.

Activity 1: Listening/Speaking

Have students choose one of their list items from the previous activity, and find a picture, example, and/or more information. When they are finished, they should share with a partner. Discuss as a class afterwards.

Activity 2: Listening/Speaking

Help students understand the word observe/observation

- observe (v): to see and notice something
- observation(n): the process of watching something or someone carefully for a period of time
- notice(v): to realize that something exists, especially because you can see, hear, or feel it

Observation is helpful to become more curious. When you are curious, observation helps you learn more.

Have students walk around the school/classroom and make observations.

Examples

- colors of things
- paintings
- size of things
- cleanliness of things

Students should share with a partner what they observed.

- Did you notice anything new?

Activity 3: Listening/Speaking

Go over the following words:

- uninterested(adj): not interested
- nosy(adj): curious about people's private business (students may need to translate this word)

Use the following scenarios. Students must choose curious, uninterested, or nosy:

Card 1: "I just got a new dog!"

Prompt 1: "That's nice. Are you going to be in class tomorrow?"

Prompt 2: "Wow, that's cool. What kind of dog is it?"

Prompt 3: "Who did you get your dog from and how much exactly did it cost?"

Card 2: "I hurt my ankle this week so I will not be coming to soccer practice."

Prompt 1: "That's too bad. Talk to you later!"

Prompt 2: "Oh, ouch! Do you have to use crutches?"

Prompt 3: "I bet it cost you a lot to go to the doctor. Do you have other health problems?"

Card 3: "I think I ripped my pants while I was giving my presentation!"

Prompt 1: "Oh well, better luck next time."

Prompt 2: "Oh, no! What did you do then?"

Prompt 3: "Did the whole class see your underwear? What color is it?"

Activity 4: Speaking/Listening

Watch the following video on this website: [National Geographic--Curiosity](https://www.nationalgeographic.com/curiosity/).

Partner discussion questions:

- What are the people in the video curious about?
- What kind of job do they have?
- Are you curious about anything you see in the video?

Homework

Find someone outside of our class and ask them to tell you about something they're curious about. Be prepared to share in class who you talked to and what you learned.

Follow-Up

Tuesday:

Follow up with original homework. Have the students share with a partner (not the same partner they did the homework with) the activity that they tried and what they thought about it, as well as the activity they introduced to someone else and how it felt to share something they are curious about.

Wednesday:

Show the following list of examples of topics students might be curious about. Give them 3 min to research one topic.

- art
- sports
- technology
- food
- travel
- music
- fashion

Share what they learned with a partner.

Thursday:

Ask students what they would be curious to learn about a new person. Have them make a list of questions and ask those questions to a classmate.



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