

2.8 Bus stop

Aim: For children to explore how choices are made and decision-making.

Skills: Cooperating, participating, listening, decision-making, thinking, concentrating

Age: 5-11

Two lengths of rope are placed across the circle to represent the bus. The teacher is the bus driver and the class are the passengers.

They all get on the bus by standing between the two lengths of rope. The bus driver reads a pair

of choices and the children have to get off the bus on the indicated side, depending on their choice. The children get back on the bus and the activity is repeated.

Left

Day Time
Shark
Chocolate Cake
Talk
Run
One Friend
Triangle
Deep Sea Diving
Something New
Art
Read

Right

Night time
Dolphin
Chocolate Ice Cream
Listen
Walk
Many Friends
Square
Sky Diving
Something Old
Maths
Watch

Discussion:

This can open up a discussion on differences and similarities. It can also lead to thoughts about decision-making. When do people make up their own mind and when do they go with the crowd? Was it easy to keep to your choice if you were the only one making it?

You could then make a list of more difficult choices:

Spend Money	Save Money
Do as your friends do	Think for yourself
Do homework now	Do homework later
Play with friends	Play with new people
Find out for yourself	Ask for help

This can lead into a discussion about the power of making a real choice. They are not necessarily right or wrong answers but will shape their experience, e.g. being rushed if they do their homework at the last minute.

Taken from Learning for Peace – A guide to developing outstanding SMSC in your primary school.

www.peacemakers.org.uk