

Never judge a book by its cover

Assembly or group activity for KS2



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Developing an emotionally intelligent school involves commitment, time, and planning. VisionWorks teaching programmes systematically build emotional intelligence and profoundly improve the climate for learning.

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Written by teachers for teachers

Never judge a book by its cover

You will need

- to display the pictures
- to play the YouTube link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UoV86Ue0acs>
(You Can't Judge A Book By Its Cover - Kids Incorporated)

The purpose of this session is to consider the way we judge other people.

Action

Show **Picture one** and ask the children:

Who do you think this is a picture of?

What type of person do you think they are?

Why do you think that?

Show **Picture two** and ask the children:

Who do you think this is a picture of?

What type of person do you think they are?

Why do you think that?

Show **Picture three** and ask the children:

Who do you think this is a picture of?

What type of person do you think they are?

Why do you think that?

Show **Picture four** and ask the children:

Who do you think this is a picture of?

What type of person do you think they are?

Why do you think that?

Ask the children to hold onto their thoughts while you tell them a story.

Never judge a book by its cover *cont.*

Picture one



You can download this picture: <http://dark.pozadia.org/wallpaper/Punk-Rockers/>

Picture two



You can download this picture: <http://t2.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcQf-cyiWZGWIG3T7ucAwwJFGvSAB-7EIjwwqrAOqaQUkEkSgistg>

Never judge a book by its cover *cont.*

Picture three



You can download this picture: <http://c.photoshelter.com/img-get/I0000TOvFTnWRxVo/s/750/750/R0012809.jpg>

Picture four



You can download this picture: http://t3.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcSLV9Gs298gmICP67yaiWXJvt8CXuGiYxtuxkzgFvLI9_xNcVT

Never judge a book by its cover *cont.*

Story

One day a pregnant lady called Emma got on the Central line of the London Underground. She was on her way to work.

There were no empty seats so she looked at the people sitting in the carriage hoping one would have the good manners to give up their seat for a pregnant lady. She only had another seven weeks until her baby was due so she was rather large.

Emma looked at two punks both reading the Sun newspaper and discussing an article they obviously found quite amusing. They hadn't even glanced up when she got on the train. "*No good expecting them to offer their seats*", she thought to herself, "*they have no manners.*"

Emma looked further along the carriage and saw two City gents in pinstriped suits, both reading their copies of the Times newspaper. One of them will surely give me a seat she thought. The gentleman sitting nearest her glanced up at Emma and she smiled. To her amazement he raised his newspaper higher into the air and continued to read.

Emma lent back on the glass partition that acted as a divider between the carriages and rubbed her tummy. She looked over at a young teenage girl, who had her eyes shut and was listening to her MP3 player. "*No good hoping she will give me her seat, she hasn't even seen me*", Emma thought to herself.

Just then the girl opened her eyes and looked straight at Emma's tummy. Slowly her eyes travelled up to Emma's face. They maintained eye contact for a split second then the girl quickly shut her eyes and continued to listen to her music.

Emma sighed and focused her attention on the smart lady sitting just staring into space; she obviously felt Emma's eyes boring into her and looked up. The lady blushed and looked the other way, clearly having no intention of giving up her seat but having the grace to feel embarrassed about it.

"*Oh well*", thought Emma, "*I guess I will have to stand until someone gets off the train.*"

At that moment the train pulled into the next station. One of the punks glanced out of the window to see where they were. As he looked down he saw Emma standing by the doorway.

"*Hey!*", he shouted, Emma felt her heart stand still.....

"*Sorry never see ya standing there lady, come on have my seat.*" He got up and guided Emma to the seat.

She was gob smacked. Suddenly an idiom her old granny used to say slipped into her mind and she knew for the first time exactly what it meant.

(Show Picture five)

Never judge a book by its cover *cont.*

Picture five

***“Never judge
a book by
its cover.”***

Emma now knew that this meant when you have only seen the surface of something you cannot know what is on the inside.

During the next week see if you notice any other examples of how we make up our minds about people based on how they look.