



Solution Seeker

Activity #2

Ask the children where they – or their parents – get most of their information about what is going on in the world? Get them to think about the information we receive through the news, and what kind stories we are told about the world through it. Let them think of examples of recent news they heard: what were they about?

Researchers have found that because stories selected by news media are very negative, we get an incomplete picture of the world. By magnifying problems and minimising solutions, problems often become all that we see. But this picture is not be an accurate reflection of the condition of the world today. Use the following exercise to demonstrate this.

Print out and give each child a copy (in colour) of the downloaded collage with lots of different pictures on it.

Make sure that it is given to the children face down and let them know that you will let them turn it over (when you say go) and give them just 25 seconds to count and memorise the names of all the green items on the piece of paper.

When 25 seconds is up, ask them to turn the paper over and ask them to write down how many green items there were and write a list of what they were.

Once this is concluded, ask them if they can tell you how many red items where on this piece of paper and ask if they remember what they were. Once you have done this, you can turn it over to see exactly how many red items there were on there.

Finally, you can share the insights of this experiment with the children:

finding and remembering the red items was much harder to answer because we were not looking for it. It was not the question we had asked. When faced with a picture with a lot of information on, we see most clearly the information that we've chosen to focus on, and our brains ignore everything else. The same is true for how we see the world: when we look at the whole world, we see most clearly what we have decided to focus on. This is often guided by the questions we are asking. This is because questions help us direct our focus. So what questions are we asking? Where are we placing our focus?

[Link back to Solutions Seeker Activity #1.](#)



Little Ruffle

Copyright © 2020 Jodie Jackson



Solution Seeker

Activity #2

