

Linking Religion to Education

Summary

The activity presents to students the key concepts of religions and the benefits of education, and makes the students draw a line between the two.

Description of the activity

The activity represents a group discussion between the teacher and students gathered in several groups of 3 or 4 people.

The students work in several small groups of 3 or 4 people. Each group has to take a sheet of paper and draw a vertical line in the middle. They label the left column “the benefits of education” and the right column “the benefits of religions”. Then, they have to think together and write down all they can think about what the benefits of education are and how it influences positively the lives of people – then they do the same for religions. To help them, they can first read an online article called “The Benefits of Religions”.

After some time, the teacher asks for the results of each group and writes down their ideas on the board divided in two parts (education and religions).

Then, all the students discuss their ideas and the teacher can guide them in their discussions, to lead them to make links between education and religions, and what one can bring to the other.

Activity structure

- **Preferred premises of the activity:** the activity can be held in class. It is important for the premises to be seen as a safe environment where students can feel free to express their thoughts.
- **Resources needed:** Sheets of paper, a white board, and potentially computers with an internet connection.
- **Recommended number of people participating:** a class, between 20 and 30 students as maximum number.
- **Previous knowledge of participants necessary:** It will be necessary for students to have basic knowledge of religions. This can be achieved by reading the different chapters of the guideline, particularly Chapter 1.
- **Activity duration:** The activity can be held as one time event during class.

Learning Objectives

The students will learn about the different religions and their values from an educational perspective.

Expected Outcomes

Working as groups, students will experience cooperation in a non-threatening atmosphere. They will have to organise their ideas and be able to explain and defend them. They will understand the importance of education in general and in a religious context. Also, they will be able to find some common values and topics in different religions.





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Target group

Students between 14 and 17 years of age.

Subject of the curriculum in which the activity could be implemented

History

Philosophy

Geography

Learning objects to be used with this activity

The online article called “The Benefits of Religions”

<https://onphilosophy.wordpress.com/2007/01/04/the-benefits-of-religion/>



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