Judging by Appearances

Aim:
To understand what prejudice is and to discuss examples of prejudice.

Explain that the lesson is about prejudice.

Put the word 'prejudice' on the board and ask the children what it means. Explain that it involves making a judgement before knowing all the facts.

Ask the children how can you tell what a person is like? Hand out **Activity Sheet 30 – Judging People** and ask individuals to complete it.

Then take each feature in turn and ask anyone who ticked that feature to explain why. Explain that the only two features that give a clue as to what a person is really like are the way they behave towards others and what their manners are like. The other features do not reveal their personality and judging a person on them is likely to be because of prejudice.

Ask the class how they judge what a person is like.
What qualities matter more than whether they have tattoos, how they dress and what colour their skin is?

Put the children in groups and ask them to write down their suggestions as to how we can tell what a person is really like:
Are they kind-hearted?
Will they help you if you are in trouble?
Are they honest and trustworthy?
Do they respect your opinion?

Encourage them to make a collage showing examples of prejudice or to write a poem about prejudice. They could write a list poem Prejudice is... or an acrostic, in which the first letters of the lines spell the word 'prejudice'.

Judging People

How can you tell what a person is like? On your own look at the following statements and tick those you agree with.

You can judge what a person is like:

By their haircut ☐

By whether they have any tattoos ☐

By the colour of their skin ☐

By what their religion is ☐

By the clothes they wear ☐

By who their friends are ☐

By who their parents are ☐

By how they behave towards others ☐

By what their manners are like ☐

By how they treat animals ☐

By how they speak ☐

By where they live ☐

By how they walk ☐

By how much money they have ☐

By how strongly they shake your hand. ☐