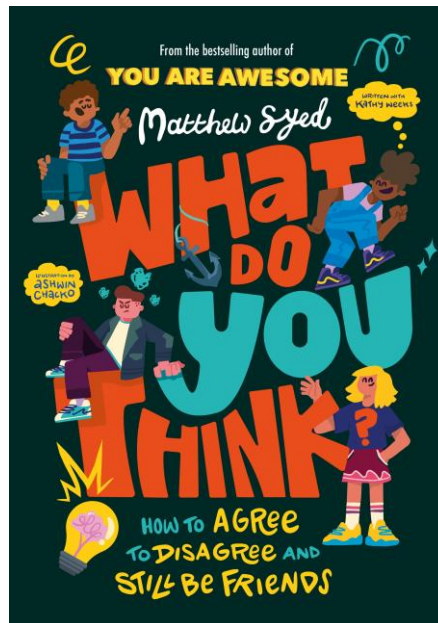


What Do YOU Think?

With Matthew Syed and Kathy Weeks



Level:

P4-6/ First and Second Level

Explore themes of:

√ Empathy √ Digital Literacy √ Citizenship

Subject Checklist:

√ Social Studies √ Health and Wellbeing

At a Glance

Before watching the event, discuss:

1. Do you have to agree about everything to be friends?
2. Can you still be friends with someone after you've had a big argument?
3. What helps you decide what you like and dislike?

4. When was the last time you changed your mind about something?
 5. How did it feel?
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Get to Know the Authors and the Books!

Activity one: Jumping to conclusions!

Matthew's teacher Mr Phelan, makes incorrect assumptions about Matthew and his friend Emma based on what they look like. He assumes Matthew's favourite food will be curry because his dad is Pakistani, and that Emma will want to make pink cupcakes because she's a girl. How can we be more curious about people we meet, and not jump to conclusions?

Activity

- Without looking down at the paper, try to draw the person next to you in 20 seconds- does it look much like them?
- Now, around the portrait, write three things about your partner that you wouldn't know just by looking at them e.g. Do they have a little sister? Do they love to sing?

Discuss

- Can you think of a time when you assumed something about someone that turned out to be completely wrong?
- What could Mr Phelan have done differently to get to know Matthew and Emma?

Activity two: Points of View

Look at Jack and Matthew's argument about the food bank. (p73-79)

Discuss

- Why does Jack find it hard to understand why some people need to use a food bank?
- In your group, think of some ways you enjoy learning about what life is like for other people. (e.g. reading books with characters that aren't like you, asking open questions, watching movies about people in different parts of the world, making new friends at clubs and at school.)
- Do you think understanding other people's perspectives makes it easier or harder to get along with them?

Activity three: Influence

Discuss

- As a class, look at an influencer's most recent posts on Instagram (Try Logan Paul & Mollie Mae!)
- How many of the posts are suggesting you buy something?
- Can you count the different brands you see?
- Have you ever felt persuaded to buy something by someone you follow online?
- Do you think influencers are always being truthful about things they want you to buy?

Activity

- Imagine you've made the most disgusting drink in the world, or a fake tan that turns you bright purple- now try and make an Instagram post selling it to your friends as if it's amazing.
 - How can you bend the truth to be persuasive?
 - Would you put a celeb name on the packaging? Edit the photos to make it look better? What will your caption say?
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Further Questions

Lastly, do you have any final questions you would like to ask Matthew Syed and Kathy Weeks if you got the chance? Try to think of at least two and make a note of them.

Keep your eye out for more awesome books from Matthew Syed and Kathy Weeks, as well as the other authors from the Edinburgh International Book Festival!



Actual Investors