

Empathy Shoes

An activity first of several What's Up July 2021 stories

It is sometimes hard to know what a day in the life of someone faraway might be like. When we know very little about them, we must use our imagination. And, in doing so, we become better at having empathy. To **empathise** is to feel a connection with someone by imagining what that person feels and thinks. It is time now to put on your Empathy Shoes for this activity!

1. Divide your class into eight groups with every group having about the same number of students.
2. Pick one of the following for each group, with no two groups getting the same individual. You can do this either on a first-come-first-served basis or by drawing lots.

GROUP 1	GROUP 2	GROUP 3	GROUP 4
			
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GROUP 5	GROUP 6	GROUP 7	GROUP 8
			
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3. As a group, read the story that your group's character appears in. The stories are all in the July 2021 issue of *What's Up*. The story will not tell you what the person does on a typical day. And so, use your imagination to prepare a five-minute oral presentation titled "A Day in the Life of ___".
4. Take turns to share your group presentation with the whole class. Then, reflect on what this experience in empathy was like for you.