

IT'S BEAUTIFUL



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The following sessions will help you provoke children to reflect on the essence of beauty. As with other great ideas, we often think we know what beauty is but when we talk about it, the explanation of its essence requires deeper reflection from us.

Stimuli:

Tell children this short story: *You are in the museum with friends and admire the beautiful paintings hanging on the walls. At some point, you see an image that just hypnotizes you with its beauty. You exclaim with delight: "It's beautiful!"*

Give the children a moment to think if they have a favourite piece of art. Then give them the opportunity to share few sentences about their favourite masterpieces with the group. If you recognise any of the pictures children are talking about, you can google them and show them to others.

Later, a young boy approaches you. He is walking slowly and timidly, holding a white stick in front of him. When he comes to you, he starts a conversation: "I just heard someone shout, 'It's beautiful!' Could you help me, please? I am blind from birth and I have never seen a beautiful picture. Would you be so kind to tell me about what you see and why do you say it's beautiful?"

Warm-up questions:

Could you help this boy?

Is it an easy or difficult task?

Can you "see" beauty?

Task question:

What is beauty?

Additional questions:

What is art?

What is colour?

Can you touch beauty?

What else do we call beautiful?

Can beauty be understood?

Can someone who does not see somehow 'see' beauty?

Do we see beauty in our eyes or do we see it in some other way?

Are children's pictures and drawings as beautiful as adults' pictures and drawings?