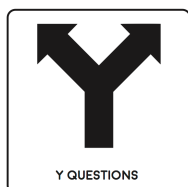


# A Beautiful Enquiry

*It's sometimes good to include some "doing" as well as thinking in P4C. This enquiry plan emerged during a teacher training session at West Earlham Primary School, and I used a similar format with Year 9s at Kings Bruton the following week.*



Divide pupils into small groups and give them all a set of something – whether it be cards, paper, pens – as long as each get the same. Ask them to arrange the objects in the most 'beautiful' way they can. After a couple of minutes, hear why they arrange them in the way they did, drawing ideas like pattern, symmetry, dimensions etc.



I used the "Dove Evolution" TV commercial, which shows a model being made over at a photoshoot and then further transformed using Photoshop. Make sure you pause it before the slogan "no wonder..." etc. is displayed.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iYhCn0jf46U>

In small groups, get them to think of words that the video brings to mind. Collect them on whiteboards or paper. Each group can create one question and pupils vote for the one they find most interesting.



Listen well and look out for contrasting points of view for which the group can seek evidence, agree or disagree.

## NEXT STEPS

As a "cool down" from thinking about beauty, ask smaller groups to arrange themselves in the most beautiful way they can (as a whole group). The teachers at West Earlham arranged themselves in a spiral of diminishing height!

If the winning question was about the advert itself, you could encourage pupils to look out for manipulated images in the media, and bring them in to discuss their potential impacts.