

Philosophy Explorers

People all around our village, our county, our country and our world have different views and ideas about the **big questions** of life. These activities are designed to help you explore some of the different ideas that people have about one of these big questions.

There are a combination of files to **read**, videos to **watch**, activities to **try** and (most importantly) questions to **think** and **talk** about.

It is great to think deeply about the world around us, to explore what we think and to be able to understand other people better. Lots of these questions don't have right and wrong answers - they are a chance to think and reflect!

Note for parents: This discussion topic will open children up to philosophical thinking. If they talk at all about any of the questions in this plan then this should be considered a success! The older children in your household may then want to explore more of the questions found here, although the youngest children are often the best philosophers of all. Remember to ask that golden question: Why? when they give you an answer. It can be incredibly annoying to do this kind of exploration so keep it light! Know that you are encouraging deeper thinking and asking them for justifications for the ideas they may take for granted.

Should we explore?

Have you ever been told off for listening to someone else's conversation? Or been told to keep your nose out of other people's business? Have you ever tried something but found that you didn't like it?

Have you ever taken a risk and been hurt?

So *should* we explore? Is curiosity a good thing? Should we always ask 'why'?

This topic has suggestions for activities, things to read, questions to think about and videos to watch to help you to think about what curiosity means.

Just like most of philosophy, there aren't right and wrong answers—it's all about taking time to think about the question—and you'll probably end up with more questions of your own at the end!

Have fun exploring!



This simple video introduces the idea:
<https://vimeo.com/198184679>

THE FUTURE BELONGS TO
THE CURIOUS.
THE ONES WHO ARE
NOT AFRAID TO TRY IT,
EXPLORE IT,
POKE AT IT,
QUESTION IT
AND TURN IT INSIDE OUT.

Key questions to consider

Is curiosity a good thing? Always?

Explorers have to face the unknown like crossing the seas and thinking they might sail off the edge of the world! Is it good to take risks? Should we always allow our curiosity to get the best of us? When is it important to be cautious?

These videos both have a character that was curious. Should we give in to the temptation to explore something if we don't know what the consequences will be?

<https://vimeo.com/46383515>

<https://vimeo.com/1215325>

Exploring the question, *'Should we explore?'*

**CURIOSITY IS
THE ENGINE OF
ACHIEVEMENT**

Make a decision line—one end of your room is 'completely agree' and the other end is 'completely disagree'. Then ask all the members of your family to think about these statements and stand somewhere along the line between the two ends depending on how strongly they agree or disagree. Ask them to say WHY!

1. I would love to go somewhere that no-one else has ever been
2. Taking risks is a good thing
3. We should always find out everything we can before taking action
4. Life would be boring if there was no danger
5. There are some mysteries that should be left unsolved

Find out about the Greek myth of Pandora—someone whose curiosity wasn't necessarily a good thing.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pMdJxVjZMRI>

Would YOU open the box?!

