

5 GENDER EQUALITY



Goal 5: Gender Equality

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

It is important to treat everyone fairly. SDG 5 aims to achieve gender equality by gaining equal access to education, health care and work. It is important that everyone is encouraged to achieve their full potential and that we break down gender norms.

World leaders are encouraging women to participate in roles of political leadership in their countries so that their voices will be heard and real change will take place.

Nature teaches us many stories about equality. We are now going to learn from some of these interesting stories, and explore what equality means in our lives.

Lessons from bees, seahorses and penguins

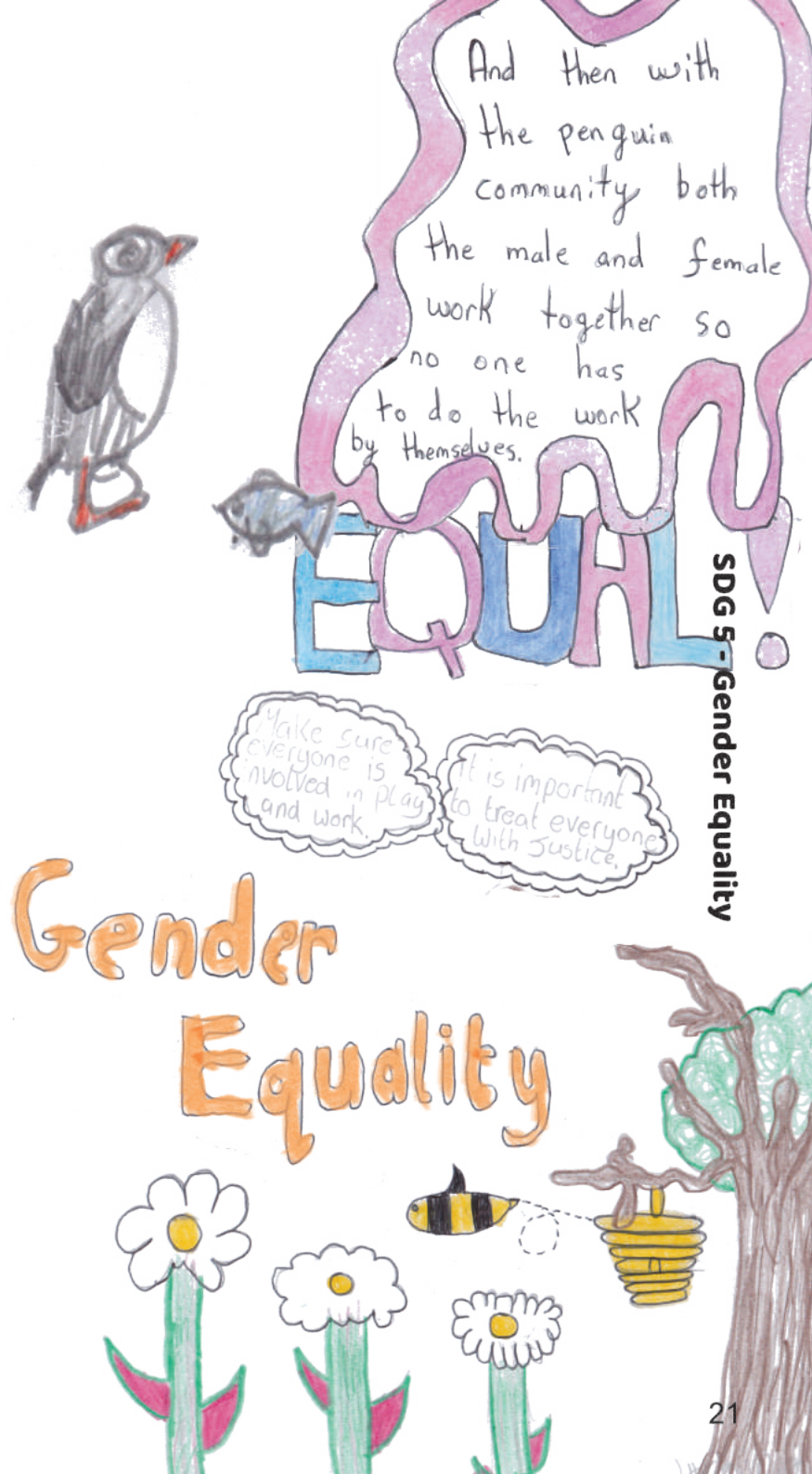
In nature caring and nurturing roles are shared between males and females.

The worker bee is female and has many roles. These include taking care of the hive, nursing the queen bee and drone bees, building the hive, guarding the hive, and foraging for pollen, nectar and water.

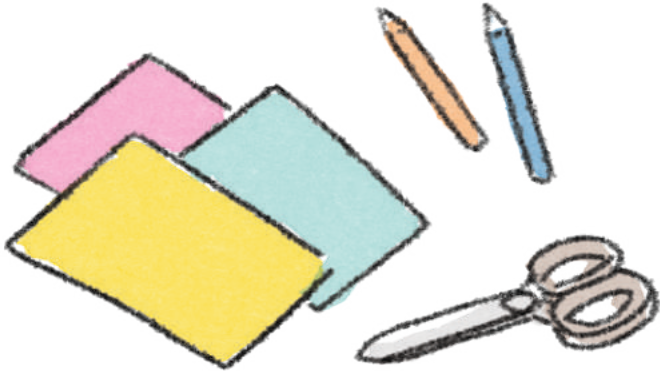
Seahorses are fascinating little fish found worldwide in tropical and temperate coastal waters. The male seahorse is unique; it is they only male in the entire animal kingdom that experiences pregnancy. It has a tiny pouch on its stomach in which to carry babies.

Penguins are found in the Southern Hemisphere. They have busy days collecting food, creating nests and shelter, and protecting chicks and eggs. This work is shared equally between the pair of penguins.

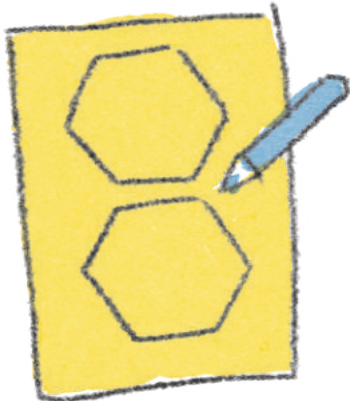
1. Nurturing means to care for something.



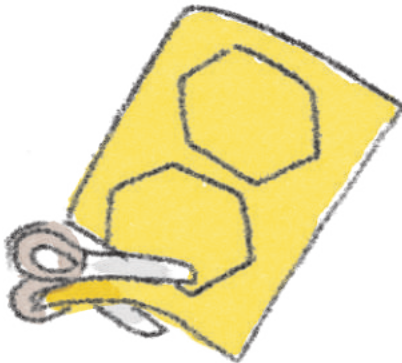
Experiment - What is Equality?



- What you need:
- A variety of coloured cards
 - Scissors
 - Colouring pencils
 - Poster card



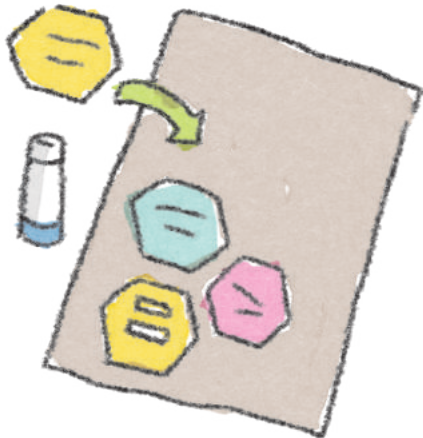
1. Draw some hexagonal shapes on the coloured card. (try to make them roughly the same size)



2. Cut the hexagons out of the card using a scissors.



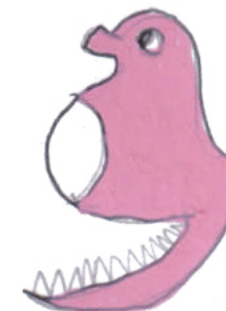
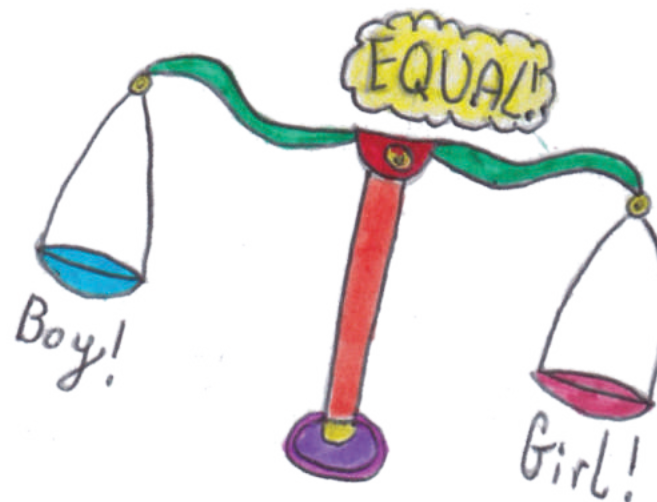
3. Draw or write what equality means to you on each of your hexagons.



4. Combine all the different hexagons together to make a large honeycomb shaped-equality poster.

What are your thoughts?
Have you learned something new from nature about equality?
What would you do to achieve gender equality?

What Do We Learn From This Experiment?



What is Equality?

Did you learn something new about equality from your classmates? Did your classmates have different ideas that you thought were interesting?

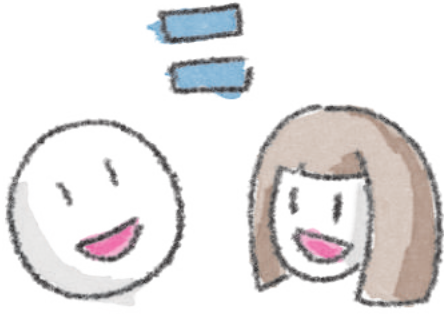
Sometimes we think that treating everyone equally means treating everyone the same. Let's explore this a little bit further.

Imagine that there are five children in your class that wear glasses. The class must complete a lesson by reading what the teacher has written on the board. Everyone who completes the lesson wins a prize. The teacher makes the five children take off their glasses so that everyone in the class is treated the same. The five children in the class will not be able to read the lesson and will not have the same opportunity to win a prize as everyone else. Is this fair? Is everyone treated equally?

Equality is not achieved by treating everyone the same. It is achieved by treating everyone fairly and putting in place the supports that individuals need to reach their full potential.



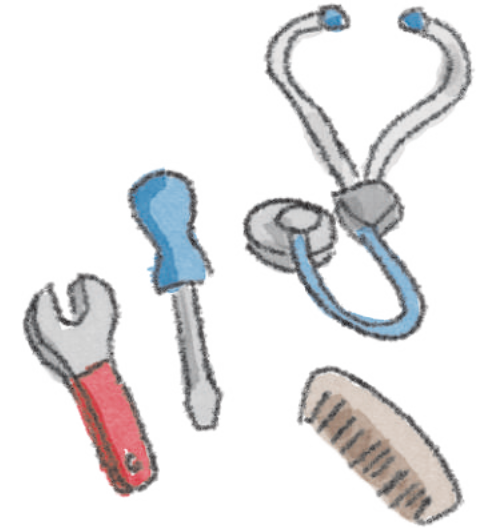
What Can We Do?



Treat everyone fairly.

SDG 5 is all about achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls.

It can be hard to know the things we can do in our lives to make a difference, but by following some of the tips on this page we can start making the world better for everyone. You may not think that little changes will make a difference, but everyone making little changes adds up to big change.



Encourage your friends to pursue their interests regardless of gender norms.



Learn about the importance of gender equality.



Create posters and presentations about gender equality.



Promote inclusion for all in sport.