



The Iceberg

Purpose

- To help young people identify features that all cultures have in common.
- To help young people understand that some of these features are visible and some not.

Activity

- Ask the group what they know about icebergs, referring to photos or video. Emphasise that most of it is hidden from view.
- Pass round a bag with the features cards (see below) – everyone picks one.
- Explain these are features all cultures have in common and see if the group can come up with examples from around the world.
- Everyone comes to place their card on the iceberg – above the waterline (visible) or below (invisible) – and explains why they are putting it there.
- See if the group can make any connections between cards above and below the waterline. For example, some religious beliefs are ‘seen’ in holiday customs/shops. See how many you can find.
- If appropriate, lead on to a discussion about intolerance, fear of difference, etc. and how these can be addressed.

Please note that these exercises might bring up sensitive issues for participants, which need to be dealt with effectively. If you have any questions regarding this resource please call 0141 222 2166 or signpost participants to our appointments team or our Relationship Helpline.

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Appointments: 0845 271 2711

The Relationship Helpline: 0808 802 2088

Feature Cards for Exercise



Facial expressions	Religious beliefs
Religious rituals	Importance of time
Paintings	Values
Literature	Child-raising beliefs
Ideas about leadership	Gestures
Holiday customs	Ideas about fairness
Ideas about friendship	Ideas about modesty
Foods	Eating habits
Understanding of the natural world	Concept of self

Importance of work	Concept of beauty
General world view	Concept of personal space
Music	Styles of dress
Rules of social etiquette	Upbringing