

Crying Tears of Joy

Subject

Language
Arts

Concept

Self-
Evaluation

Grade Level

High
School

National Career Guidelines

Goal
PS2
Develop
positive
interpersonal
skills
including
respect for
diversity

Type of Activity

Individual
with whole
class
discussion

Related Occupations

Actor
Lawyer
Manager
Teacher

In this activity students will list and define nonverbal ways to communicate, send messages, and/or respond. Students will demonstrate nonverbal communication through role-play and will describe personal interpretations of nonverbal communication in written form.

MATERIALS/SUPPLIES

“Nonverbal Communication” worksheet, pen/pencil

ACTIVITY

Distribute the “Nonverbal Communication” worksheets.

Discuss that non verbal communications a method of communicating your thoughts and feelings to another person without really saying anything. Example: A person might smile and this could communicate that she/he is happy, just as easily as saying, “I’m happy.”)

Have students randomly “draw” one of the communicators listed on the worksheet and role-play them for the class.

Have each student write down his or her interpretation of the role-playing.

List each interpretation on the board.

Discuss similarities and differences in the interpretation.

Discuss how we sometimes:

Misinterpret the nonverbal cues

Send ambiguous messages (smile as we say “No, I’m not angry” when we are actually angry or hurt)

Smile when we feel like crying

Cry when we feel joy

Discuss the meaning of “congruence” – when our outward behavior matches our inward feelings.

EVALUATION

Students will be evaluated on demonstration of nonverbal communication through role-play and description of personal interpretation of nonverbal communication in written form.

Nonverbal Communication

Name _____

Communicators

What they mean to you

1. Smile
2. Pull
3. Push
4. Stretch
5. Frown
6. Hold another person
7. Wave
8. Look into another person's eyes
9. Touch another person
10. Stand close to another person
11. Avoid eye contact
12. Winking
13. Sit with arms crossed in front of you
14. Shake hands
15. Yawn
16. Stick tongue out at another person
17. Scratch yourself
18. Show of tears on face
19. Shake head up and down
20. Shake head side to side