

## INFLUENCES – Friends

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### QUEST 6: The influence of our peers

#### Teacher notes

#### Curriculum links:

Drama, PSHE (Personal wellbeing, Life skills, Relationships)

Zone relevance: Influences

#### Description:

Friends are people we enjoy spending time with, either one-on-one or in a group, and with whom we share values, preferences, objectives and a worldview. In this activity, students will role play friends in different situations and their influences on each other. Students will define which influences were positive and which were negative. This activity can also be used as a research project to look up details on the different characters in the film and what influences they had on each other.

#### Background:

Over the course of our lives we develop relationships with peers, either one-on-one or as part of a group, with whom we share values, preferences, objectives, and a world view. Within these relationships we mutually influence one another's identities. Some of these influences are visible, like our clothing or our code of conduct, and some more subtle, like values and beliefs.

#### Activity:

- a. Put students into role playing groups - each group should have 3-4 people.
- b. Give each of the groups a different situation from one listed on the next page.
- c. Students should spend a given amount of time coming up with their role play of the situation handed to them. Each play should be about the group of friends in a situation and how they are influencing each other. For example: if someone in the group is like a Dark Lord of the Sith, how will they be influencing their friends when a small girl comes by with an ice cream cone they want? Encourage the students to make the role plays believable and based on real life scenarios.
- d. The students will have to decide how the characters influence each other in this situation, based on the characters' values and goals.
- e. Students should perform their role plays to the rest of the class and discuss if there was positive or negative influences in each play.
- f. You can use the wrap-up questions at the bottom of the following page to discuss with your class once all the role plays have been performed.

### **Role play scenarios:**

- 1)** A group of friends are out skateboarding when a situation happens, one of the friends has values like the Sith named Darth Maul, who is aggressive and likes to control situations.
- 2)** A group of friends are flying around the galaxy. One of the friends has values like Han Solo, a very brave man who eventually helps the Rebel Alliance destroy the Empire; however he is also a smuggler.
- 3)** A group of friends are part of a club, they are together when a tense situation happens, one of the friends is like Padmé Amidala a natural leader and an upholder of peace and justice.
- 4)** A group of Droid friends are hard at work when something happens; one of the Droids has values like R2-D2, who is known to be courageous, funny and seek adventures.
- 5)** A group of friends are at a very important event, one of these friends is like Jar Jar Binks, who is known for his clumsiness, his sweet intentions and his habit of getting into trouble.
- 6)** A group of friends are playing a game (could be a sports game, use your imagination), one of these friends is like Chewbacca, who is a very loyal friend, but can have a bad temper at times, can be quite physical and is key in helping others out of sticky situations.
- 7)** A group of friends are helping a community repair itself after a natural disaster. One of these friends is like Anakin Skywalker, a very talented man, who has his doubts about the good in people and has started seeking more power.
- 8)** A group of friends are hanging out when something happens. One of the friends has values like Yoda, a very wise and strong Jedi, who can be a little quirky at times.

### **Wrap-up questions:**

- a.** What is the difference between a negative influence from a friend and bullying?
- b.** When can negative influences become bullying?
- c.** What are some strategies to deal with negative influences from friends?
- d.** How do people end up having friends that are a negative influence on them?
- e.** Can you think of friends in your life that have a positive influence on you? Do any of your friends have a negative influence on you?