

EXPLORE Activity Sheet

Oxplore is a free educational website created by the University of Oxford, to engage 11-18 year olds with debates and complex ideas across a wide range of subjects. Are you ready to dive in?

Watch your big ideas get

bigger!

1. Visit oxplore.org and find a Big Question that intrigues you. Draw a thought bubble and write the question inside.

2. Around your thought bubble, jot down your first impressions. This could include:

- what you already know about this topic
- your opinion on the question
- other views that could be taken

3. Look at the Big Question materials and add to your ideas. What have you learnt? Did anything surprise you? What would you like to learn more about? Could there be an interesting subject to study which is related to this topic? (Check out the 'Take this further' resource in the 'Read more' section for subject ideas).

Cooking up a new

Big Question

1. Take a look through two or three of Oxplore's Big Questions.

2. Create an ingredients list for a 'perfect' Big Question. If you're feeling particularly creative you could write this in the style of a recipe e.g.

'First stir in a range of ideas from different subjects... Next, spoon in a dollop of...'

3. Once you've done this, try thinking up your own Big Question. Is there a topic that has always interested you? If you could ask a professor at a university like Oxford anything, what would you say? Look back at your recipe to make sure your question is suitably BIG! [Click to send us your ideas.](#)

Sending Big Questions

with love **xox**

1. Select a Big Question and learn more about a topic that interests you.

2. Take a postcard-size piece of paper. On one side, write down some of the key points made in the question and what it has made you think e.g.

'Dear..., today I learnt about.... Some people argue that... while others suggest... Something that surprised me is... Overall, I think that...'

Postcards are short texts, so make your points as concisely as you can.

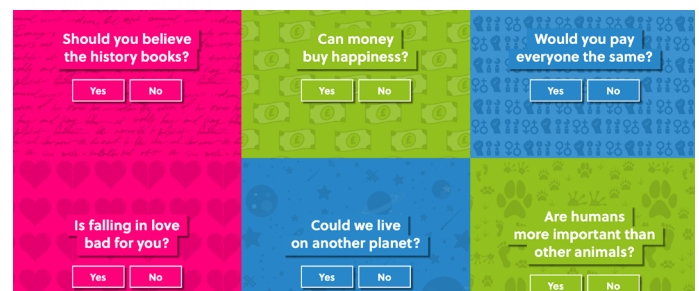
3. On the other side, create an artistic representation of the question. You could write down the question itself or add drawings which relate to the topics covered. Get creative!

4. Maybe you could send your postcard to a friend. Remember to include our url - oxplore.org - so they know where to look!

What's the BIG idea?

1. While browsing the homepage, you may have noticed that we've grouped our Big Questions into themes. To do this activity you'll need to close your eyes to this!... No peeping!

2. Scroll past the first 3 sections of the homepage until the Big Questions appear randomly in grids that look like this:



3. Try to categorise the Big Questions you see using your own themes. Aim for 5-8 themes in total. Were there any questions that sat in more than one group or were really tricky to sort? Jot down your findings.