

What Is Forgiveness?



twinkl

Aim

To explore the concept of forgiveness.

Success Criteria

I can understand what is meant by forgiveness.

I can use drama to show the feelings that are involved when forgiving someone else and when being forgiven.

What Is Forgiveness?



forgiveness

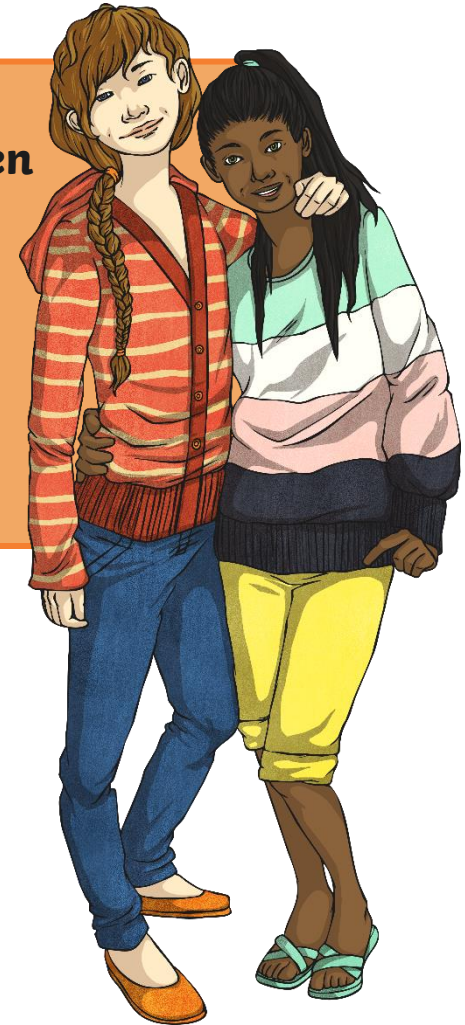
With your family member, think about this word and what you think it means. Try and give some examples of forgiveness to help you to explain your understanding of the word. You will share your ideas with the class.

What Is Forgiveness?



Forgiveness (noun) is defined as:
the action or process of forgiving or being forgiven
(Oxford Dictionary)

To forgive (verb) is defined as:
to stop feeling angry or resentful towards
(someone) for an offence, flaw or mistake.
(Oxford Dictionary)



Understanding Forgiveness



Forgiving means to change the way you feel about something that has happened or has been done to you.

To consolidate our understanding of this, let's explore how forgiveness is different from the following words:

condoning

forgetting

excusing



Understanding Forgiveness



As you will have found out, the words have very different meanings.

Condoning is accepting and allowing something which is wrong. Forgiving is not saying that bad behaviour is acceptable, but is saying that you no longer feel angry about it.

Forgetting is when you do not remember something. This is different from forgiving because when forgiving something, you are likely to remember it but are no longer resentful or wanting to punish the offender any more.

Excusing is when you try to give reasons why someone is less to blame for their actions. When you forgive, you are not analysing how much the person is at fault but you are saying you accept something happened and are letting go of the hurt caused.

Quotations about Forgiveness



Through our drama work today, we have heard some thought-provoking quotations about forgiveness.

“When one forgives, two souls are set free.”

Unknown

“The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is an attribute of the strong.”

Mahatma Gandhi

“Friendship flourishes at the fountain of forgiveness.”

William Arthur Ward

“When a deep injury is done to us, we never heal until we forgive.”

Nelson Mandela

“You do not do evil to those who do evil to you, but you deal with them with forgiveness and kindness.”

Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him)