

What's happening in the news this week?



Let's have a look at this week's poster!

10th - 16th March 2025



**How can we make
connections with
others?**





Let's look at this week's story

The Princess of Wales has recently shared pictures, drawn by herself, Prince George, Princess Charlotte, and Prince Louis, of each other. The artworks, shared on social media, are part of the Shaping Us campaign, which highlights how we develop skills to connect with others from a young age. The pictures also aim to raise awareness of an exhibition, launched by The Princess, at the National Portrait Gallery in London, encouraging children to explore their relationships and feelings.



Learn more about this week's story [here](#).
Watch this week's useful video [here](#).
This week's Virtual Picture News [here](#).



How does it make me feel?



sad despondent disconsolate dismal doleful downhearted forlorn gloomy melancholic miserable woeful wretched	angry aggrieved annoyed discontented disgruntled distressed exasperated frustrated indignant offended outraged resentful vexed	happy beaming buoyant cheery contented delighted enraptured gleeful glowing joyful	confused addled baffled bemused bewildered disorientated indistinct muddled mystified perplexed puzzled	excited animated elevated enlivened enthusiastic exhilarated exuberant thrilled	worried agitated anxious apprehensive concerned disquieted distraught distressed disturbed fretful perturbed troubled uneasy	overwhelmed engulfed inundated overburdened overloaded saturated submerged swamped	afraid alarmed apprehensive daunted fearful frantic horrified petrified terrified
guilty ashamed compunctions contrite culpable penitent responsible rueful	jealous bitter covetous desirous envious envying resentful wary	thankful appreciative grateful gratified indebted obliged relieved	shocked astonished astounded disconcerted distressed dumbfounded horrified staggered startled stunned surprised	disgusted affronted appalled horrified repelled repulsed revolted sickened	inspired activated encouraged exhilarated galvanised influenced motivated	embarrassed ashamed awkward chagrined demeaned discomposed humiliated self-conscious uncomfortable uneasy unsettled	interested absorbed captivated curious engaged enthralled fascinated gripped intrigued riveted

This week's story looks at events related to ...





Read through the information below about the recent drawings by members of The Royal Family.



princeandprincessofwales  The @earlychildhood Shaping Us Framework describes the social and emotional skills which start to develop in early childhood. These skills are key throughout our lives, shaping who we are, how we manage our thoughts and emotions, how we communicate with and relate to others, and how we explore the world around us.

Drawing portraits with children can provide a moment of connection as you spend time looking at and focusing on one another, as well as being creative and – most importantly – having lots of fun together!

 Prince Louis, Princess Charlotte, Prince George and The Princess of Wales

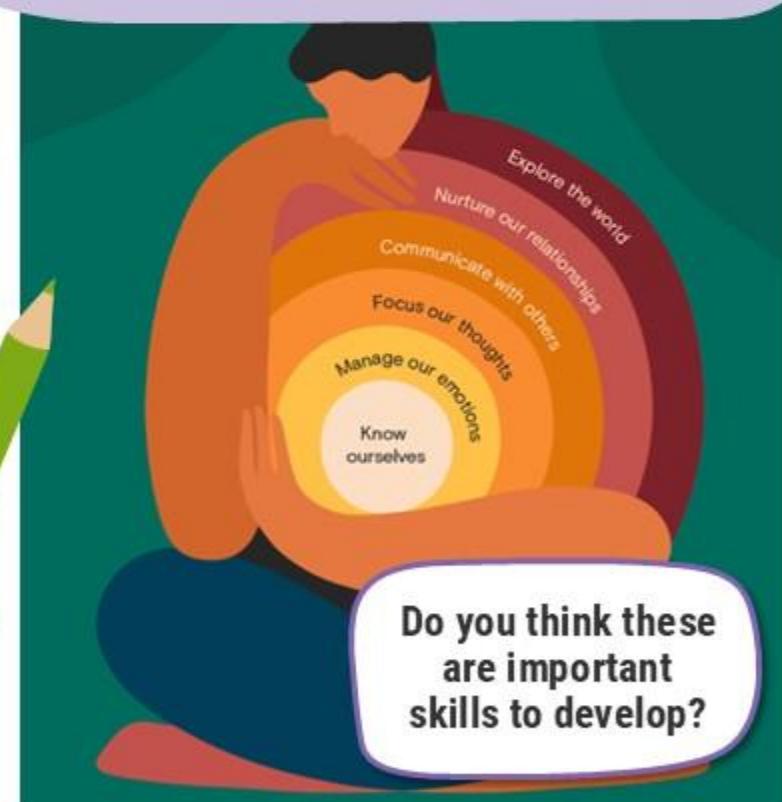
Pictured above: The social media post shared with the portraits The Royal Family created.

Source:
Instagram.com/princeandprincessofwales/.

Pictured right: The social and emotional skills from the Shaping Us Framework.

Source: Royal Centre for Early Childhood Foundation.

The portraits shared are raising awareness of the Shaping Us Framework. It's a campaign to help us all understand more about ourselves, and how we see the world, from a young age.



Share your thoughts on the idea of drawing as a way of connecting with others. Is drawing or creating art something you enjoy?



Look at the resource below, which shares some examples of those we might feel connected to.



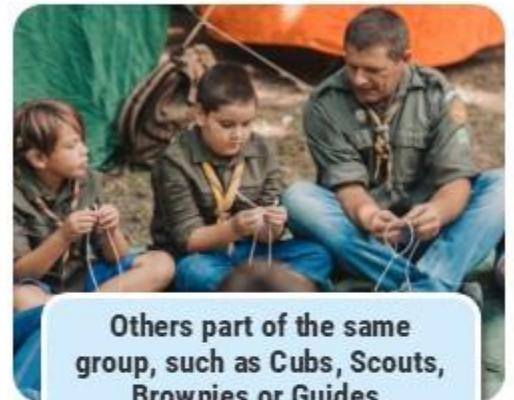
Our family.



Our friends.



Our class and teachers.



Others part of the same group, such as Cubs, Scouts, Brownies or Guides.



A sports team.



Members of our community in a place of worship.



Our pets.



Other people supporting the same team or sporting event.

Who is special to you? Why? How do they make you feel?



Look at the resource below, which shares some more information about our connections with others.

What are connections?

Connections are the bonds we form when we share interests, experiences, or feelings with others. They help us feel supported, understood, and part of a team.



Why do connections matter?

Connections help us feel happier and more fulfilled. They can make life more enjoyable by sharing special moments with others. Strong relationships give us a sense of belonging, purpose, and love.



How can we build connections?

Get creative together: Drawing, painting, or making music.

Share tasks: Cooking, gardening, or school projects.

Listen and talk: Spend time having meaningful conversations and asking questions.

Help each other: Offering a helping hand builds trust and friendship.



"I'm quite shy, but making art with my friend Aisha helps me open up. Now we share our drawings and help each other get better."

Ruby, 11



"I love playing chess with my grandad. He teaches me new strategies, and I teach him new jokes! We have a real bond."

James, 10



"When I joined the school choir, I didn't know anyone. Singing together made me feel like part of a family straight away."

Ella, 8



"My best friend and I started a nature club at lunch break. Working together to look after our school garden makes me really proud."

Tom, 7

Which of the quotes stand out most to you? Why? Who do you connect with? How do you like to connect with others?



**How can we make
connections with
others?**



Reflection



There are many ways we can connect with others, through art, music, and spending time together. These connections can help us feel a sense of belonging with those around us.



Media Literacy

How relevant is this story to us?



Explanation: Let's think about why this story is in the news and whether it is important to us.



Questions to Discuss

- Why do you think The Royal portraits story is being reported?
- Does this story affect our daily lives? Why?
- Who might find this story important or interesting?
- Should we pay attention to this type of news, or are there more important stories?

Reflection

How do we decide which news stories are important to us, and does this change from person to person?



Analyse



Evaluate



Research



Act

Activity

Imagine you are a newspaper editor. Decide where this week's story would fit in your newspaper:

- *Front page (very important)*
- *Small section (some interest, but not a major issue)*
- *Not included (not relevant)*

Discuss your choice with a partner. What influenced your decision?



Individual Liberty

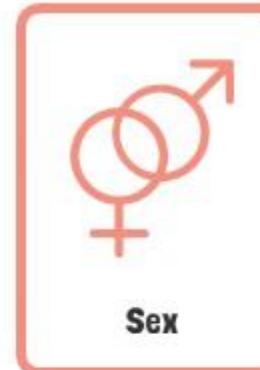
We each have the freedom to choose who we connect with and how we make those connections strong and meaningful. These choices are important as friendships can make us, and others, feel happy and fulfilled.

Protected Characteristics



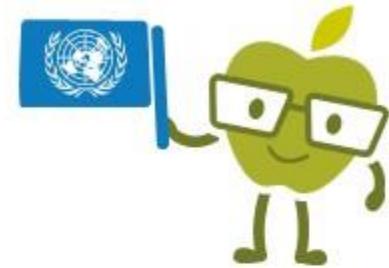
No one should be treated unfairly because of their religion or beliefs.

Respecting and celebrating differences among friends can help us build stronger connections and better understanding across communities.





UN Rights of the Child



We have the right to meet with friends and join groups. Adults should support and facilitate this so that we can build strong and meaningful friendships with others.



SETTING UP OR
JOINING GROUPS

Useful Vocabulary

Belonging

When we feel important, comfortable and happy as part of a relationship with a group, family or a place.

These connections can help us feel a sense of **belonging** with those around us.

Exhibition

A public display of artwork or items of interest, usually held in a public place, such as an art gallery.

The pictures also aim to raise awareness of an **exhibition**, launched by The Princess, at the National Portrait Gallery in London, encouraging children to explore their relationships and feelings.

Connection

A meaningful relationship or bond with another person or thing.

How can we make **connections** with others?

Portrait

A drawing, painting or photograph of a person's head and shoulders.

Drawing **portraits** with children can provide a moment of connection as you spend time looking at and focusing on one another.

Develop

How we grow, change and improve over time.

Do you think these are important skills to **develop**?



Can you use them in your writing this week?



How can we make connections with others?

The Princess of Wales has recently shared pictures, drawn by herself, Prince George, Princess Charlotte, and Prince Louis, of each other. The artworks, shared on social media, are part of the Shaping Us campaign, which highlights how we develop skills to connect with others from a young age. The pictures also aim to raise awareness of an exhibition, launched by The Princess, at the National Portrait Gallery in London, encouraging children to explore their relationships and feelings.



- Look at this week's poster and talk about what you can see. Can you make a prediction about who might have made the drawings and why?
- This week's story is all about connection with others. Talk about what we mean by 'connection'. Think about some of the people around us we share connections with.
- Read through the information found on the assembly resource about the recent drawings by members of The Royal Family. Share your thoughts on the idea of drawing as a way of connecting with others. Is drawing or creating art something you enjoy?
- Can you reflect on some other ways of how we can strengthen our connections with others?
- Watch this week's useful video, which explains more about the drawings. Do you think Princess Catherine sharing them will help others understand more about connection?

Reflection

There are many ways we can connect with others, through art, music, and spending time together. These connections can help us feel a sense of belonging with those around us.



KS1 focus

Who are some of the people we are connected to?



Listen



Think



Share

- Ask the children to reflect, with their eyes closed if they wish, on some of the people in their lives that are special to them. Whilst thinking, ask the children: how do you know this special person? How do they make you feel? Share some of the responses as a class.
- Having a connection with others can bring people closer together. Can you think of some people, outside of your immediate family, that you might have a connection with? What is your shared interest? How does your connection with them make you feel?
- Look at resource 1, which shares some examples of those you might have a connection with.
- Do you have a connection with any of the people shared in resource 1 in your life? Is there anyone different, that hasn't been mentioned yet, that you feel you have a connection with? What does that connection mean to you?
- Have you ever connected with a pet, an animal, a place or something else?
- How would you feel if you didn't have connections with others? What could you do to make more?

Reflection

Connecting with people who are special to us is one of life's greatest joys. Sharing happy moments or seeking comfort from those we trust helps us feel supported, content, and valued.



KS2 focus

Why are strong connections with others important?



Listen



Think



Share

- What do you think we mean by a 'strong connection' with someone? Who in your life do you feel connected to? Why? How might it feel to go through life without people to support or share experiences with?
- Look at resource 2, which shares lots of ideas, information and experiences about connections.
- Read the comments from the children. Do any of them stand out to you? Have you ever had a similar experience? Share your thoughts with a partner.
- Do you think creative tasks can help people feel connected? Have you ever bonded with someone through art, music, or another creative activity? Why might things like drawing, singing, or making something together help us connect more than just talking?
- Have you ever formed a connection through a shared goal, hobby, or interest? What made that bond special?
- Why can making new connections sometimes feel difficult? Have you ever felt nervous about making a new friend? What helped you overcome it?
- Do we only connect with people like us? How might we build meaningful connections with people of different ages, backgrounds or experiences?
- What do you think makes a strong connection last? Think about a close friendship or relationship you have – how do you keep that connection strong?

Reflection

Strong connections help us feel understood, valued, and supported. They bring happiness, a sense of belonging, and make life feel richer and more meaningful.



KS2 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Create a 'connections web' to help you reflect upon and appreciate the people around you, who are important.

1. In a notebook or on a piece of paper, write your name in the centre of the page.
2. Around the centre, write down the people, groups, or communities you feel connected to (friends, family, clubs).
3. For each connection, note something special about it (e.g., shared activities, support, or how it makes you feel).

What did you learn about your own connections through this activity? What are some things you can do to strengthen the connections you already have?

Option 2

What helps you connect with others? As a class, think about and discuss what activities or hobbies can help you feel closer to others. Pick an activity to try together, as a class or in smaller groups if this works better. This could be listening to or making music, singing together, creating a class art project, reading aloud, building something as a team, or something else!

Think about being present, and how working together makes you feel. Enjoy spending time with classmates.

Afterwards, reflect on:

- How did this activity make you feel?
- Did you notice moments where you felt more connected to others?
- What was the best part of working together?
- Would you try this activity again? What other activities would you like to try?



KS1 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Let's make a class paper chain of connections! Wouldn't it be lovely to display our connections of some of the people who are special in our lives, as a class paper chain?

You will need:

- Some small strips of white or coloured paper
- Pencils, pens or crayons
- Glue

What you need to do:

1. Think about some of the people in your life, who you have a connection with.
2. Write your name and theirs onto the strip of paper. You could decorate it further by drawing some pictures, love hearts and happy faces if you wish!
3. Bend the strip of paper round and glue the two ends together to make a cylinder.
4. Think of another person you have a connection with and make another piece for your chain.
5. Bend the strip of paper around again but this time, thread it through the chain you have already made.
6. Continue to make lots of connection chains and join together with the ones your classmates have made.

Display your connection paper chain and send us a picture to help@picture-news.co.uk or via socials @helpPicture.

Option 2

Just like The Royal Family, create a portrait of someone you have a connection with. You might like to complete it together, or gift it to them and tell them how much they mean to you.



This week's useful websites

This week's news story

www.bbc.com/news/articles/cwy7y1n73ngo

This week's useful video

Hand-drawn portraits

www.dailymotion.com/video/x9ejr0m

This week's Virtual Picture News

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

This week's vocabulary

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Social and emotional skills

Skills that are needed to help manage feelings, thoughts, behaviour and emotions, as well as developing how we communicate and respond to situations.

The @earlychildhood Shaping Us Framework describes the **social and emotional skills** which start to develop in early childhood.

Never smile at a crocodile...!

You know how important it is to brush your teeth properly, well, how would you feel about brushing a crocodile's teeth? It is unlikely anyone would want to give it a try - even with a giant toothbrush! But did you know that crocodiles' teeth regularly fall out? Luckily for them, there is a brand-new tooth waiting underneath, ready to come through and replace it! Phew! 'Crocodiles can live up to 75 years (and even longer in captivity). That's a long time for teeth to last, which is why the crocodile has 4-5 backup sets', says Brandi Allred, a non-fiction animal writer.

Crocodiles use their teeth to



Pictured: A Saltwater crocodile.
Source: Canva.

capture and eat mammals, fish and birds, hunting mainly at night. It's the saltwater crocodiles that have the most powerful bite force of any living mammal. Their teeth are large, and they have 36 at the top of their jaw and 30 at the bottom, so 66 altogether! That's a lot of teeth!

Did you know that crocodiles have been around for about 250 million years?

Daffodils are the pick of the bunch!



Pictured:
Beautiful spring daffodils!
Source: Canva.

On Wednesday 12th March, it's Plant a Flower Day, which is perfectly timed for when lots of beautiful spring blooms will be popping up to say hello!

The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) has recently launched its 'daffodil diaries' project, in honour of it being 100 years since the famous plant charity helped to save the lovely, yellow sunshine flower, as it almost became extinct. Gardeners and businesses across the UK have been asked to record where daffodils are blooming, as well as noting

additional information, such as the flower's height, type and colour. Scientists at the RHS will then use the information to help better understand the types of conditions needed for them to grow and learn more about rare daffodils. Dr Kalman Konyves, an RHS daffodil expert, said, 'There's more to this ubiquitous yellow flower than meets the eye, with 31,000 known varieties available in green, pink and red'.

What is your favourite flower?

Why do we judge people based on their appearance?



Sometimes people don't mean to judge others. And they might feel bad about it after.
Elsie

Let us know what you think about this week's news



picture-news.co.uk/discuss



help@picture-news.co.uk



@HelpPicture

World's Smallest Park!

Guinness World Records has announced that a Japanese park is the new holder of the world's smallest park title! The tiny park, in Nagaizumi Town, Shizuoka, is less than one square metre. It has an entrance, bench, and grass, even though it is the same size as two sheets of A3 paper (0.24 m²). The park, used by locals as a place to sit and relax, often features



Pictured: World's smallest park being measured.
Source: Guinness World Records on Facebook.



Pictured:
World's
smallest park
being verified
by Guinness
World Records.
Source:
Guinness
World Records
on Facebook.

in the media and has proved to be a popular place for tourists to take photographs. Shuji Koyama, Team Leader of Nagaizumi Town's Construction Management Division, said, 'We want to continue maintaining the park with the community, as well as creating a landscape that is more social media friendly, so that even more people will find attractions of our town.'

Do you think it is important for places to have 'selfie' spots?
Would you like to visit this park? Are there any other parks you would rather go to?

Let us know what you think about this week's news



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@HelpPicture

Name for a Newborn

Graves Park Animal Farm, in Sheffield, has welcomed an adorable new addition, and they are asking people to help name him! A baby llama (or cria) was born at the end of January, to mum Nancy, and has two siblings called Lettuce and Humus. Llama mums can't lick their babies clean after birth, as their tongues are attached and do not reach very far out of their mouths. Instead, the pair bond by humming to each other. Llamas can grow up to 1.8 metres tall and weigh between 130 and 200kg. Located in Sheffield's biggest park, the farm is home to some of the rarest breeds of farm animals in the country, including Tamworth pigs, Highland cattle and Jacob sheep. Visitors can get up close to the goats, donkeys and waterfowl and buy



Pictured: Nancy and her new baby, with stockperson at the farm. Source: Graves Park Animal Farm on Facebook.

special food to feed the adult llamas. 'I'm asking people to get their thinking caps on and come up with some clever and imaginative names. The Council and the staff at Graves Parks Animal Farm cannot wait to see what you come up with!' said Councillor Kurtis Crossland, from Sheffield City Council, who run the farm.

Have you ever seen a llama?
Do you know any interesting llama facts?
Can you think of a good name for this baby?

Why do we judge people based on their appearance?



You should get to know someone for who they really are.
Kiari

TAKE HOME

10th - 16th March



Is it important to feel proud of where you come from?



In the news this week

Things to talk about at home ...

- Share your thoughts on the drawings. Have you ever drawn a portrait of someone? Do you think this type of activity could help build connections with others?
- Can you think of any other ways you can connect with others around you?
- Talk to someone at home about some of the people you are connected to.

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

