

Gender Respect Project

Thinking about gender roles

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For further information see:
<http://www.decsy.org.uk/>
<http://genderrespect2013.wordpress.com/>

- This resource requires pupils to consider various gender identities and roles. Using the framework of a Venn diagram, pupils are asked to separate adjectives, jobs, domestic duties and childcare responsibilities into female, male and gender-neutral sets. Pupils should then think critically about their choices and reflect on different scenarios.
- The words/statements provided are to be used as a guide. We encourage you to adapt these if you wish.

Choose one of the four word-sort activities

a) Adjectives b) Jobs c) Domestic roles d) Childcare

1. Ask pupils individually / in pairs / in groups to cut and place the words / statements on the Venn diagram according to whether they perceive the word / statement to be Female, Male or All genders.

2. How did they decide? What sort of discussion was there? Where do their ideas about how to decide come from? (N.B. With c & d they are very likely to be influenced by what happens in their family, so there will be issues if e.g. there are single parents. What if e.g. one of the parents goes out to work or both go out to work?)

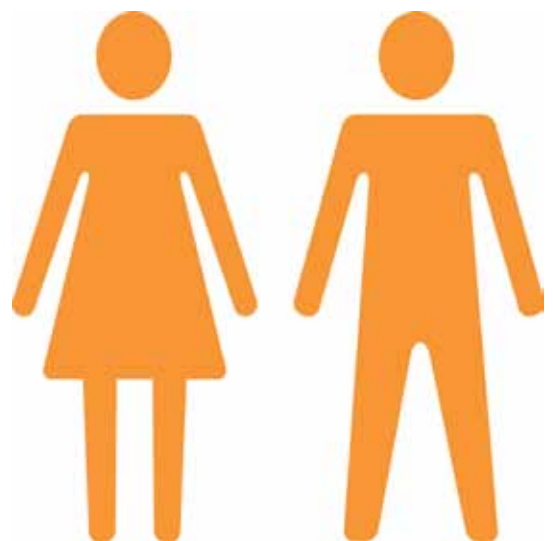


Image: www.clker.com (2015)

3. Would their answers look different if the activity was done:

- a) in the period their grandparents were children?
- b) at the time their parents were children?
- c) by a child in 20 years time?

4. What has this activity taught you about gender roles and their perceptions?

How are the roles of men and women changing? How would you like them to be?

Notes to Teacher:

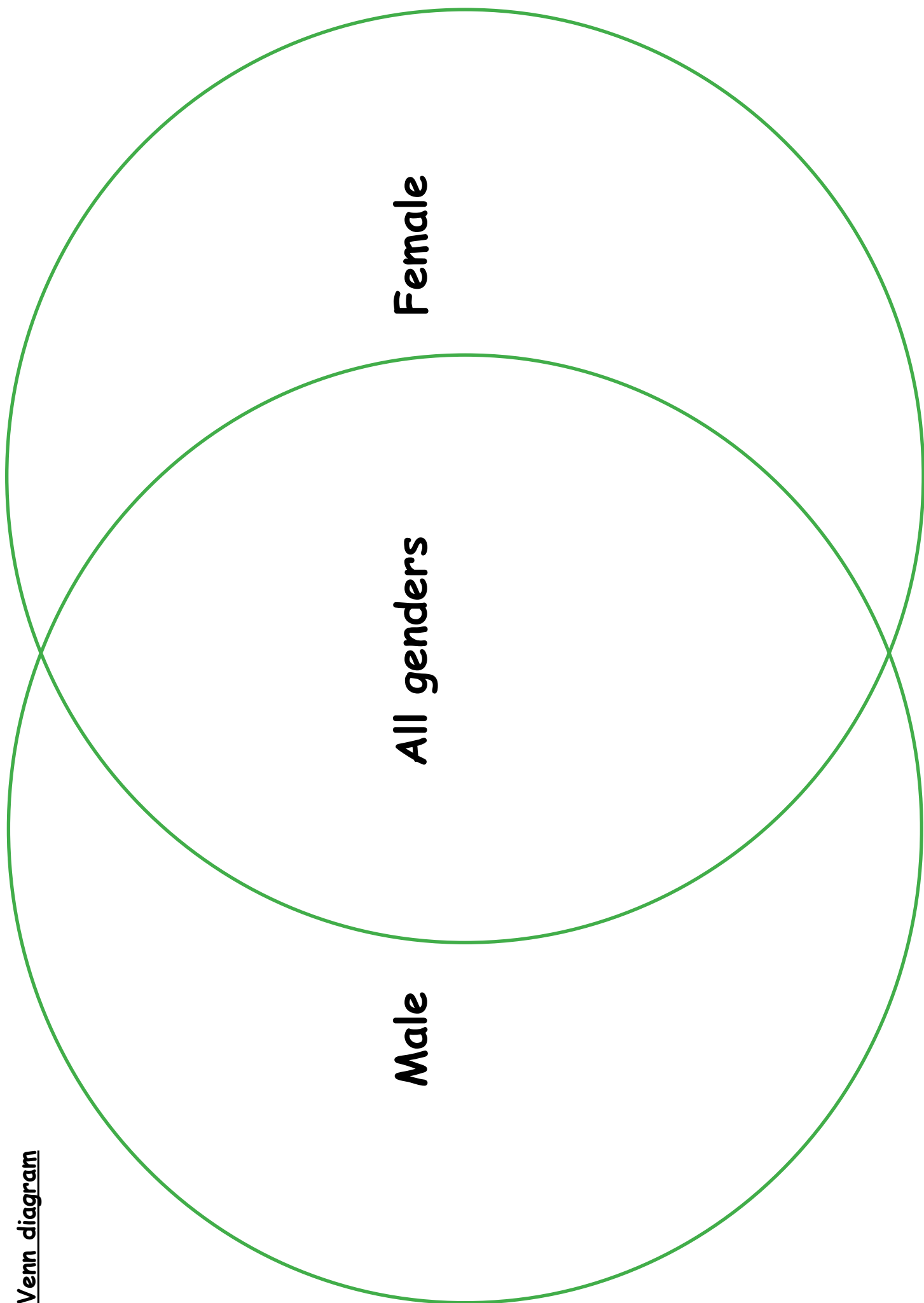
*To make sure that the activity runs effectively, it is helpful agree on some ground-rules. For example:

- a) Listen actively - respect others when they are talking.
- b) Do not be afraid to respectfully challenge one another by asking questions, but refrain from personal attacks.

*Try not to influence pupils.

*Remember that all families are different. Try not to make assumptions.

Venn diagram



*Please note that this Venn diagram is not to size and would ideally work better enlarged to A3.

A) Adjectives

Strong	Mean
Caring	Sporty
Kind	Noisy
Tough	Quiet
Clever	Bold
Brave	Friendly
Thoughtful	

B) Jobs

Nurse	Doctor
Surgeon	Fire-Fighter
Teacher	Headteacher
Pilot	CEO/Manager
Soldier	Scientist
Carer	Inventor
Footballer	Dancer
Artist	Social Worker

C) Domestic roles

Cooking	Cleaning
Gardening	Paying the bills
Doing the washing up	Ironing
Looking after the car	Fixing a computer problem
DIY	Doing the laundry
Chopping wood	Choosing holidays
Doing the shopping	Child care
Making decisions	Earning Money

D) Childcare

Changing nappies	Taking to school
Helping with homework	Going to parents' evening
Taking to dentist	Doing the laundry
Reading stories	Going to football match
Buying clothes	Giving a cuddle
Giving punishment	Giving a bath
Preparing meals	Going to the park