

The death of George Floyd and the Black Lives Matter movement

1. As the pupils enter

Have the [webpage open](#), display images and play your chosen music.

2. Introduction

Tell the children that they will be hearing about the Black Lives Matter movement and the protests that took place in 2020. Explain to the group that this is a worldwide protest against people being treated differently just because of the colour of their skin. Ask pupils to think about the reasons why people are protesting while they watch the video.

3. Play the video

Play the video. The duration is 4' 59" and the final words are: ' "Everybody has equal rights. There should be no exceptions. Black lives matter." '

4. After the video

Ask everyone to turn to the person beside them and explain why it is important that we all treat each other fairly, whatever our race or skin colour.

5. Time to talk

Use these video questions to help children to talk about the story and consolidate their recall of the events:

- Why were people angry about George Floyd's death? (George Floyd was mistreated by the police during his arrest; his death made him latest of many black people to die in America due to the actions of white police officers).
- Who can describe what racism is? (Being mean to someone, or treating them unfairly, because they are a different race to you or have a different colour skin). Wait for responses. Follow up with: 'Do you think it is fair for people to be treated differently because of race?'
- Why did people pull down some statues in 2020? (The statues were of historical figures that owned or traded slaves. Looking for an awareness that although slavery isn't around anymore, it's the root of a lot of racism that does still exist).
- What is the main message of the Black Lives Matter movement? (That black lives matter just as much as all other lives; an end to racism). Wait for responses. Follow up with 'Do you think the Black Lives Matter protesters want black people to be treated better than white people? (No. Looking for awareness that they just want equality).

[Link to video page](#)



6. Opportunity to reflect

Focus your reflection on the inequality and racism that is still part of our society today:

As you sit quietly, think about how it feels to be treated unfairly by other people...

Every person on the planet is unique...

We have different coloured skin...

different coloured hair...eyes....

We speak different languages and our cultures are different...

But nobody should be treated badly or unfairly because of those differences...

Everyone has the right to be treated equally...and we can all play a part in making that happen...

...And in bringing an end to racism for good.

7. Opportunity for prayer

Use your normal form of address ('Dear God', 'Lord Jesus', 'Let us pray', etc) and:

Thank you for the courage of all those who stand up to racism and fight for our right to be treated equally.

Help us to treat everyone with the same respect, regardless of the colour of their skin.

Amen.