

# International Women's Day

## 1. As pupils enter

Have the webpage open. Play your chosen music and display an image.

## 2. Introduction

Tell the children that they will be learning about International Women's Day and the ongoing issues of gender equality. Explain to the group that men and women are often treated differently all around the world, known as gender inequality. While they watch the video, ask them to think about how International Women's Day helps to highlight and reduce gender inequality.

## 3. Play the video

The duration is 4' 00". Final words: '...people that can make a difference.'

## 4. After the video - Time to talk

Ask the children 'Turn to the person next to you and tell them a time when you saw someone treating boys and girls differently, or experienced gender inequality yourself.' Then ask the following questions about the video to help children consolidate their understanding:

- Can you remember what sort of activities happen on International Women's Day' (Speeches, campaigns, demonstrations and marches. Looking for an awareness that IWD is about raising awareness of gender inequality).
- Who can describe what gender equality is? (Men and women are treated fairly and enjoy the same rights, access to resources, opportunities and protections). Wait for responses. Follow up with: 'Do you think it is fair for people to be treated differently because of their gender?'
- Can you remember some of the ways that women are treated differently to men around the world today? (Unable to travel alone, go to school, fewer in top jobs, paid less, can't own land, sign contracts, prevented or discouraged from following their dreams. Looking for an awareness that gender inequality can be found everywhere, and in many different aspects of life).
- Can anyone tell me what the main message of International Women's Day is?' (That everybody deserves to be treated equally, regardless of their gender). Wait for responses. Follow up with 'Do you think the Women's Day campaign wants women to be treated better than men? (No. Looking for awareness that they just want equality).

## 6. Opportunity to sing

If your assembly is to include a song this would be a good time to sing.

## Video page



## 7. Opportunity to reflect

Focus your reflection on the gender inequality that is part of our society today. Ask the children to sit quietly and think about how they feel if they are treated differently to others. *Everyone is unique, and our gender makes up just part of who we are...*

*It doesn't make us more or less capable of doing anything, and we shouldn't be treated differently because of it...*

*Every person deserves the right to be treated equally. On International Women's Day we remember that, but every day we can all play our part to help end gender inequality for good.*

## 8. Opportunity for prayer

Begin with your usual form of address and:

*We want to thank you for the International Women's Day campaigners, who have stood up to the gender inequality we still face in society, and fight for everyone's right to be treated equally.*

*Help us to treat everybody with the same respect, regardless of their gender.  
Amen.*