

Lesson idea

Introduce the issues you want to explore during the activity, see [CWG Workshop Slides](#) and [CWG Workshop Report 2008](#) for some ideas. The **aim** is to develop understanding of how identities are formed: "Who am I and why am I like that?" How do these questions relate to geography and citizenship?

ID card group discussion:

When and where would you need an ID card? What identity do you not have a card for? What does your card say about you? Who would not have the right to an ID card? Where would your ID card exclude you from, as well as allow you to go?

Design an ID card activity:

- Students could decide what details/categories should go on the card
- Students could play a 'who's who' game, guessing whose identity belongs to whom
- Students could design ID cards signifying: different 'scales, spaces and places' of identity; including how they identify themselves in a local, regional, national, global context
- Consider how an ID card would be used in different spaces
- How does identity relate to particular places – both how people define themselves, and what interconnections this makes (e.g. students may define themselves by a local fashion, but where are their clothes made?)

Whole class discussion:

- How do you see yourself and how do others define you?
- Can this be captured on an ID card?
- What controversial issues does the idea of identity raise?
- What are the pros and cons of ID cards? Consider different perspectives?

Useful Links

[BBC](#) – Q and A on Identity Card Plans

[Citizenship Foundation](#) - Information, arguments, resources, facts and figures, teaching advice, further web links on ID cards

[Department of Social Scrutiny](#) – satirical website on ID card issue giving spoof ID cards and application forms and arguments against ID cards

[Global Dimension](#) – searchable database of geography resources on Identity

[Home Office](#) – Identity and Passport Service: government information on ID cards and National Identity Scheme

[QCA](#) – Identity and Diversity Curriculum

[Open University](#) – Free educational resources available on OpenLearn: Identity in Question

[Who Do We Think We Are? \(WDWTWA\)](#) – resources for teachers and students exploring Britishness, identity, diversity and citizenship

[Real Histories Directory](#) – online searchable database of resources

Website: www.geocitizen.org.uk

Email: geocitizenproject@googlemail.com