

EduTrend Contents

G4C · DEBATE AND DISCUSSION GAMES · PRIMARY

Four Corners

Walk to the corner that matches your view, agree the best reason and stay open to changing your mind

Ages 6–10	Level: Developing	15 minutes	Whole class of 8–30	Activity 02

Inside: activity at a glance · step-by-step session plan · facilitator notes · 3 pupil worksheets · assessment checklist

ACTIVITY 02 · AT A GLANCE

Four Corners

The adult reads a light statement, such as “Dogs make better pets than cats.” Children walk to the corner that matches their view: strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree. Each corner has one minute to agree its best reason, then shares it. Anyone persuaded may change corner, and the adult asks what changed their mind.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the session pupils can:

- state a view;
- give a reason;
- listen to other reasons;
- change their mind for a good reason.

KEY WORDS

agree · disagree · reason · because · persuade · view

CURRICULUM LINKS

English: spoken language, persuasive writing. PSHE: respect.

1	2	3	4	5	6
WARM UP	**EXPLAIN**	**PLAY**	**LISTEN**	**TALK**	**CLOSE**
Voices and bodies ready	One game, clear rules	Invented roles	Everyone heard	What worked?	Calm and positive

Materials (whole class)

- Four corner signs
- Statement cards
- Sentence starter poster
- Worksheets 1, 2 and 3

Before the session

- Put signs in corners.
- Choose light statements.
- Post starters.
- Model a reason.

SAFETY

Use light, low-stakes statements. We disagree with ideas, not people.

ACTIVITY 02 · SESSION PLAN

Step by step

Praise changing your mind for a good reason.

Time	What happens	Say or ask
0–2 min **Warm up**	Practise "I think… because…".	*"What is a reason?"*
2–4 min **Explain**	Corners and moving rule.	*"Can you change your mind?"*
4–12 min **Play**	Two or three statements.	*"What persuaded you?"*
12–15 min **Close**	Share a good reason heard.	*"Which reason was strongest?"*

CHALLENGE CARD (print or copy onto the board)

Give one clear reason for your view and listen for a reason that might change it.

ACTIVITY 02 · FACILITATOR NOTES

The discussion game know-how in brief

Younger children can give a claim and a reason with sentence starters.

Rewarding a change of mind for a good reason shows discussion is about ideas, not winning.

Common ideas to listen for

- “Changing your mind means you lost.” It means you listened.
- “Strong feelings are strong reasons.” Reasons need because.
- “Disagreeing is rude.” Disagree with ideas politely.

Adapting the activity

Support

Use only two corners, agree and disagree, with picture statements.

Stretch

Each corner repeats the strongest reason from another corner before replying.

WORKSHEET 1

My view

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Write or draw.

Views

Statement	My corner	My reason

WORKSHEET 2

Best reasons

Record reasons from each corner.

Reasons

Corner	Best reason
Strongly agree	
Agree	
Disagree	
Strongly disagree	

WORKSHEET 3

Changing my mind

Reflect.

A reason that made me think again was...

FOR THE TEACHER

Assessment checklist

Use during the session. One sheet covers up to eight pupils; copy as needed.

Pupil	States a view	Gives a reason	Listens and reconsiders

Suggested codes: W = working towards · E = expected · G = greater depth

ABOUT THIS ACTIVITY

Four Corners is a sample activity from the EduTrend Contents G4C Debate and Discussion Games programme (primary, level: developing). Every activity in the programme follows the same format: a practical challenge, a clear session plan, facilitator notes and ready-to-print worksheets, so that teachers, club leaders and parents can run it without extra preparation.

Full 15-, 20- and 32-week programmes are available from EduStore at edutrend.org.

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