



Group Shots

Time required
(mins)



Key Stage 2

Preparation time

10 minutes to prepare superhero slideshow; if you're doing superhero role-play to start, you'll also need to prepare your own superhero costume!

Resources needed

- Projector and images of popular superheroes, from the Marvel or DC Comics Universe
- Superhero music to play over the final superhero 'gallery' moment
- Optional: your own superhero costume...

My Secret Superpowers

A lively assembly activity that introduces the notion of how we are all unique.

What happens

Run into the assembly in your superhero costume and stop dramatically. Follow the script below or devise your own:

"Sorry I'm late, I hope you haven't been waiting long. Normally I change before assembly but I ran out of time. Someone was trying to steal a famous painting from the Tate gallery last night and I got a call that a young child was stuck in the tunnel in the new playground in Peckham. It has been a busy few hours. It's hard having superpowers and being a teacher."

Display the title of the assembly along with pictures of superheroes. Script continues:

"So let's see, what are we discussing today – ah, yes! Being super. Fantastic! You can see some of my colleagues in these pictures. I wonder if they have been as busy as me lately."

1. Ask pupils who they see in the pictures and what is special about these superheroes. Emphasise that while superheroes may all have super skills (speed, spinning webs, etc.) it's their personal qualities such as honour and bravery that make them heroic.
2. Ask pupils who their heroes are at school, home and in the local community. Why are these people heroes to them? You could extend this discussion by asking who else in the world, past or present, might be considered a hero or asking if someone needs to have a superpower to be a hero.
3. Using talk partners invite pupils to think about times when they have been heroic or have helped someone. Share some of their examples and celebrate the importance of being kind and considerate to others.
4. Using talk partners, ask pupils to think about what makes them super. This could be something they are good at: maths, swimming, etc., or a quality they have such as being a wonderful friend or a caring sibling.
5. Ask all pupils to stand up and to think about how to make their bodies into a statue that shows their super talent. After a bit of thinking time, count down from 10 to 0 and then say "freeze" – by the time you get to zero, pupils will need to have settled on their superhero pose.

6. Choose a few statues for everyone to look at, or ask a class at a time to stand up and show their super poses.

★ *Tip: For the statue display, play music to create a superhero atmosphere.*

7. After the statue exhibition, explain that the super Year 3s are taking part in the Tate Year 3 Project where their class photography will form an artwork in the Tate national collection, along with thousands of other Year 3 pupils.

8. Explain who Steve McQueen is – an Oscar-winning and Turner Prize-winning artist who had the vision for the project and who is making this artwork. The artist is fascinated by what this work might tell us about the city we belong to, our pupils, our futures and hopes.

9. Ask the Tate Year 3 Project class to stand up and to strike a pose that shows them as superheroes. Conclude by asking everyone to be a superhero for the day by thinking about our school as a great place to belong to, being kind and considerate in our school community and helping younger pupils in the school.

This activity works well with

- Frame It
- Global Guardians

