

Shoulders Back Head High



THINGS YOU MAY NEED

Pen and Paper
Arts and Crafts Materials

OVERVIEW

Welcome to lesson plan for Shoulders Back, Head High. This lesson plan will help you look at the history of the LGBTQIA+ movement, and use your creative skills to understand how we can help make a safer future for the LGBTQIA+ community. An explanation of what LGBTQIA+ stands for is available at:

www.tinyurl.com/yaxodsdr

Shoulders Back, Head High looks at the life, legacy and activism of Marsha P Johnson, and the impact she had on the ongoing fight for LGBTQIA+ equality. It combines original writing, stunning artwork and a chorus of voices from the LGBTQIA+ community to highlight the progress that we have made since the work of Marsha P Johnson, and the steps we still need to take.

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ACTIVITY 1

Start by watching, Shoulders Back, Head High. This should take you about 5 minutes. It is a 360° film which means it will happen all around you. If you watch it on a mobile you can move your phone around to watch the film. If you are watching on a computer or laptop use your mouse to click and drag your way across the film.

Watch and listen closely to the actions of Marsha P Johnson, that have made her a memorable figure within the LGBTQIA+ community.

Shoulders Back, Head High is available to watch on the MBDTV Youtube Channel at:

www.tinyurl.com/yyga4xy8





ACTIVITY 2

Having watched Shoulders Back, Head High, have a go at the activities below. This should take you about 15- 20 minutes

1. Shoulders Back, Head High mentions Marsha P Johnson's role in the Stonewall Uprising, a turning point for LGBTQIA+ equality. Take some time to research the Stonewall Riots and what life was like for the LGBTQIA+ community at that time.

2. Now that you've done that write two lists of the following:

- . Things that have changed for the LGBTQIA+ community since the Stonewall Uprising.

- . Things that haven't changed for the LGBTQIA+ community since the Stonewall Uprising.

This can either be in the UK or America. Be mindful that some things might have changed for some members of the LGBTQIA+ community but not all of them.

3. Write a short paragraph explaining why you think some things have not changed, and ways we can improve them.





ACTIVITY 3

As it says in, 'Shoulders Back, Head High' - Marsha P Johnson is known for walking the streets in elaborate outfits that she made herself, with headdresses crafted from some of the most unusual things. As strange as these headdresses were, many people still remember her by them because they were so unmistakably hers.

Take the next 25-30 minutes and design your own headdress that is unmistakably your own. This can either be done as a wearable piece, or as a drawing.

Try to create something that represents who you are as a person, it could include photos, magazine clippings, drawings of your favourite things. Make it as detailed as possible so that it can't be mistaken for anyone else's.

Once you have created your headdress, write a short paragraph explaining what you have decided to include, why you have decided to include it and how it represents you.

