



Teacher Empathy Card – a contribution to the tool box from Estonia

Aim of tool/ Brief overall description of aim of the tool in steps towards intercultural competences of teachers:

Empathy is central to developing a concern for, and understanding of others, and acknowledging social, cultural and individual difference. Self-awareness helps all members of a school to recognize and face their own prejudices and intolerances, which is the first step to tackling them.

The main aim is

- **To understand, describe and show my own and others feelings and moods**

E. Approach taken from:

Tool taken from

Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL) for UK Secondary Schools

Web site: <http://www.standards.dfes.gov.uk/primary/publications/banda/seal/>

Basic aspects of implementation based on

R. Majors, Emotional Literacy /Teacher Empathy Training, 21-22 Oct 2008

A. Target group, which could use the tool:

Student teachers

B. Main methods used

Pair work

Group work

C. Description of the practical handling the tool in major steps:

Time 60 min

Participants: 12 student teachers, 1 lecturer –moderator

Steps:

1. Introduction (aims and process) 5 min
2. Group work (4 groups) –15 min
3. Group presentations (4x5) – 20 min

4. Discussion in 2 subgroups - 15 min
5. Summary 10 min

Tools:

1. Teacher Empathy (TE) Cards (2 different x 2)
2. Paper board, markers

D. Description of the process and the possible outcome of the tool:

Process:

Moderator forms group, every group picks the TE card and answers following questions:

What do you think is happening in this photograph? Have you ever been in a situation like this?

What do you think this person is feeling like?

Have you ever felt like that? When have you felt like that?

If you feel like that what would your:

face look like?

body look like?

If you are feeling like this what might you do?

If you are feeling like this how does your body feel like on the inside? Can you think of any other words that might describe the feeling? What do you think a person who felt like that would do?

To summarize your thinking you might agree a definition of the feeling and display it.

Groups summarize (visualize) the outcome of the discussion on a paperboard and they present the results to the others.

The groups who have the same TE card join into one group and continue the discussion looking for similarities and differences in perception.

The lecturer-moderator summarizes the discussion following the main aim (stressing the importance of reading feelings and expressing them in multicultural learning environment).

J. Stepping stones, which should be kept in mind, while doing it:

The Lecturer encourages students to say as many words as they can and reinforces the idea that not everyone will have the same feelings in the same situations.

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