

Hats! P4C and Role Play

This #PhilosophyFriday resource is kindly shared by SAPERE trainer Gina Parker (Mullarkey) of [Little Chatters](#). This activity is included in Gina's SAPERE [P4C and Early Years online workshop](#).

There are so many opportunities for philosophical play in Early Years, and of course beyond. Perhaps a child has popped on a hat as part of role play. Imagine the many possibilities for P4C through the use of questions:

- **Reasoning and justification** Why did you chose that hat?
- **Giving examples** What might you do while wearing that hat?
- **Comparing and contrasting** How is that hat the same/different to X hat?
- **Creative thinking** If you could wear any hat, what hat would it be?

There are lots of simple activities you can do with hats. Here are some ideas to get you started.

With the children in small groups, give them a choice of hats, such as those below.

- Ask them to order the hats from most to least favourite
- Ask them which hat they would most like to have
- Can they group the hats so that one is the odd one out? Can they make it so that each hat takes a turn in being the odd one out?
- Perhaps they would like to consider the spells they would cast if they were a witch or a wizard. Are they 'good' spells or are they 'bad' spells?

Remember always to explore children's reasons for the answers they give!

