

What Makes You Smile?

Here are some **Talking Points** for each picture. We hope they help stimulate a great class discussion!

Drawing 1 from Satoshi Kitamura, Japan



- Why might the child in Satoshi's picture be smiling? Relate this to your own experiences of what makes you smile.
- What or who might the child be looking at which is making them smile?
- What do you think Satoshi means by 'Smile gets in your eyes'?
- Why is it so important that people can see you smile with your eyes, especially at the current time?
- How else can you recognise that someone is smiling? Think about other ways in which people communicate.

Drawing 2 from Ulla Saar, Estonia



- Why do you think Ulla has chosen to draw animals instead of people as the residents of this building?
- What is each character doing which is making them happy? Why might Ulla have chosen these particular activities for each animal?
- Do you think the neighbours all get along? What clues can you find in the picture to support your reasoning?
- What does this picture suggest to you about a sense of community? How might this be particularly relevant in our society at the moment?
- If you were to write a slogan to accompany the picture, what would it be?

Drawing 3 from Viviane Schwarz, Germany



- Viv's picture shows us that simple everyday activities can make us smile. Which ordinary, everyday activities make you happy and why?
- Do you ever find that you love something one day and hate it the next? Why might this be?
- Viv's cat makes her smile every day. Why do you think pets make such good companions?
- What do you think Viv means when she says that 'everything felt bright'?
- Do our actions influence our emotions, or do our emotions influence our actions?

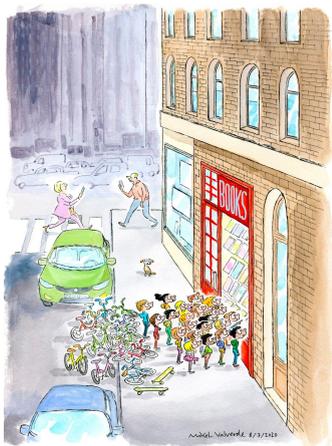
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Drawing 4 from Victoria Semykina, Russia



- What could we understand about Victoria Semykina from her picture?
- Discuss what you think is meant by 'Food for the body is not enough. There must be food for the soul' (Dorothy Day).
- What is your favourite food and why is it guaranteed to make you smile?
- Which do you think is more important - eating delicious food or having good friends to share it with?
- Who would you most like to share a party tea with and why?

Drawing 5 from Mikel Valverde, Spain



- If Mikel had included a quote to accompany this illustration, what would it be?
- Discuss Mikel's use of colour. How does it add to the 'story' behind the picture?
- Which books would you display in a shop window and why? Think about your favourites from a whole range of genres.
- Why do you think Mikel has shown the adults engrossed with their phones while the children are fascinated by the books on display?
- Invent a new book title for the book shop. How would you illustrate the front cover of your book?

Drawing 6 from François Place, France



- What do you find most striking about this picture and why?
- Why do you think the family are so intently watching the old man draw?
- Do you think the family and old man know one another? Explain your reasoning.
- What do you think the old man is drawing?
- Use clues from the picture to discuss where in the world this picture may be set.

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Drawing 10 from Jörg Mühle, Germany



- How is the lion feeling and how do you know?
- How has Jörg shown the lion's mood in his picture?
- Imagine the lion is trying to comb his hair for a special occasion - what might it be?
- What do you think the lion is thinking?
- Does this picture make you smile? Explain your answer.