



## Local issue: illiteracy

**Themes:** causes and impact of illiteracy, socio-economic inequality, local action

Video link: <https://player.vimeo.com/video/277114335>

These discussion questions are designed to deepen your students' learning experience. Once you have watched the video, use these questions to test your students' knowledge, cement their understanding and introduce more complex themes and ideas. Students should be encouraged to share and discuss their opinions with their peers, developing their communication, argument formation, information literacy and critical thinking skills. Whilst we have differentiated the questions for primary and secondary age groups, feel free to mix and match the questions as appropriate for your group.

### Primary

- 1) What is illiteracy? What does this mean to you?
- 2) What is your favourite book? Why?
- 3) Why is being able to read important?
- 4) What are some ways that The Hawthorns School took action on illiteracy?
- 5) What were some of the impacts of The Hawthorns School's project?
- 6) What positive steps can you take to raise awareness of illiteracy?

P.T.O. for secondary age group discussion questions...



## Secondary

Suggested answers, helpful resources and definitions have been included for our secondary discussion questions, enabling you to facilitate a meaningful discussion and take your students' learning to the next level.

- 1) What is illiteracy? How would you define it?
- 2) What are some of the benefits of being able to read and write?
- 3) How do strong literacy skills benefit us throughout our lives? Think about your life now, your career aspirations and the daily tasks you complete.
- 4) Why is illiteracy a bigger issue in low-income areas, compare to middle- or high-income areas?
- 5) How is illiteracy linked to our mental health and well-being?
- 6) What actions could you take to make an impact on illiteracy?

Make a positive impact to your community and learn more about illiteracy with our WE Read Together campaign materials at [WE.org/gb/wereadtogether](https://www.wereadtogether.org/gb).