

***Workshop for years 5 & 6 based on  
Franklyn Rodgers' photograph  
'At Last (Patrick Dyer)'***

**Workshop run by The A Space Art Studio at Brook  
Community School, years 5 and 6 pupils with Caroline Lee,  
A Space artist**

This resource is used in conjunction with a card drawn from the **Emotional Learning Cards** series, *What do you Feel?* Purchase the cards online at:  
[www.inivacreativelearning.org](http://www.inivacreativelearning.org)



Franklyn Rodgers 'At Last (Patrick Dyer)'

## **Introduction**

This workshop was delivered as one session in a series of A Space art workshops which were based around Iniva Creative Learnings boxed sets of Emotional Learning Cards, from the series *What do you feel?* The workshops ran weekly after school for years 5 and 6 pupils.

## **Group discussion**

The artist leading the workshop began by showing the card to the group. The children were asked what they made of the photograph. They shared their ideas about what they thought the person in the photo was doing.

The artist then moved the discussion onto an emotional theme, using the questions on the back of the card as a guide. She said the person in the photograph could be seen as letting his breath out after holding it in. This, she added, could be something like holding in feelings or thoughts that we may not feel comfortable expressing. She asked the group which feelings they found difficult to talk about or to find a way of expressing. The discussion became more animated when one child volunteered that she got angry when her little brother got all the attention. The artist helped the group to share some of their experiences of feeling on the sidelines or of being less visible. This was a subject that everyone could relate to. It was brought alive because it came straight from one of the group members. Sibling and peer relationships became the central theme that was then explored in the art making.

## **Collage making**

The artist invited the children in the group to make a collage using coloured shapes to represent people and a range of magazine cut-outs and photocopies of images. She suggested that they create pictures that captured a time when they felt difficult feelings that they might have been tempted to hide or to hold in. She had prepared a typed list of words in advance that they could choose from to assist them in identifying a specific emotion to highlight. These words had also been printed on acetate and were then used in the photographic exercise. The list included words such as guilty / wanting to hit back / angry / embarrassed / left out / hurt.

## **Photography**

While the group worked on their collages, the artist called each child in turn over to another table where their hand was photographed dipping into a large clear plastic bowl of water which was placed on different surfaces and had been set up to catch the light. Each child chose a word or feeling state that they held

under water and let go of. In spirit, this echoed the action captured in Rodgers' photograph.

The photographs were then printed on A3-sized photographic paper. A display was made with the resulting pictures that included Rodgers' image and related questions from the *What do you feel?* cards.





in partnership with A Space

**What did you think of this resource? We want to hear from you...**

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**About Iniva Creative Learning**

Iniva Creative Learning is a not-for-profit partnership between A Space (arts and therapy service, Hackney) and Iniva (the Institute of International Visual Arts). We share a commitment to producing art-based resources and delivering initiatives which promote emotional learning, personal development and psychological growth.

**Emotional Learning Cards**

It is now widely recognised that well-being in every part of life depends on successfully building understanding, insight and emotional resilience. **A Space** and **Iniva** have been co-publishing **Emotional Learning Cards since 2008** and they now occupy a leading position in the growing fields of **emotional learning and psychological therapies**.

**Each boxed set of Emotional Learning Cards includes 20 cards:**

- **On the front:** visually rich images of a contemporary artwork by a variety of culturally diverse and emerging artists known for their engagement in social or political enquiry.
- **On the back:** open questions and discussion prompts around the theme 'What do you feel?', 'Who are you? Where are you going?' and 'How do we live well with others?' for group or one-to-one use.

Suggestions for using the cards in different contexts such as school, home, gallery workshops and individual or group therapy settings are offered in a **fold-out leaflet**.