

GENDER ROLES

Teacher Script: “I will read a list of words, if you think the word is for girls step to the left, if you think the word is for boys step to the right. If you feel it is neither or for both stay in the middle”

Read each word and let the students pick a side:

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|----------------|-------------|
| ★ Dolls | ★ Cooking |
| ★ Pink | ★ Cars |
| ★ Blue | ★ Strong |
| ★ Trucks | ★ Business |
| ★ Dancing | ★ Nurse |
| ★ Firefighting | ★ Engineer |
| ★ Glitter | ★ Lawyer |
| ★ Sensitive | ★ Scientist |
| ★ Football | |

After the Activity:

Ask the class to discuss what they noticed. What words caused the majority of the class to think about a ‘girl’ or ‘boy’? Where do these ideas come from? Why is it harmful to assume these words are referring to a ‘girl’ or a ‘boy’?

THESE ARE CALLED GENDER ROLES, OR WAYS THAT SOCIETY EXPECTS WOMEN OR MEN TO ACT, DO, OR LIKE.