



5.2: What are the rules?

Using the slides read the following story:

There once was a kingdom with a beautiful castle at its heart, it was here that King Binary lived and ruled his people.

Around his castle was a moat that flowed into a wide, fast moving river that split his land in two. It was decreed long ago that on one side of the river, where only pink flowers grew, all the girls would live, and on the other side which was filled with only blue flowers, would be home to all the boys.

The only hospital in the Kingdom was inside the walls of King Binary's castle, when a child was born he would decide through which entrance they would leave the castle, through the blue or the pink door. Those who he sent through the pink door to Sheland would forever more be called girls, and those he sent through the blue door to Heland would forever be boys.

There were also very strict and different rules for each side in Sheland and Heland,
I know this sounds far-fetched but don't we have similar rules?

Ask the class:

Where do these ideas of being a girl or being a boy come from? Are there unwritten rules for being a girl or being a boy? Are there anything that you are supposed to do or not allowed to do? Are there things that we should be good at or not be good at?

Give a big sheet of paper to each table and ask them to write what they think the rules would have been in Sheland and Heland.

Ask each group to feed back their answers to the rest of the class. Do we all agree? Are the rules true? Where do these ideas come from?