Introduction to Gender Stereotypes - 6th Grade Virtual Activity

**WISE** is an organization that supports people who have experienced abuse and violence. WISE educators spend a lot of time in schools talking with students about these issues so that people know that it is not okay and that they deserve help. We also want to think with young people about how we can create a world without violence. When WISE visits 6th graders, we spend our time talking about gender stereotypes.

A stereotype is an assumption made about an entire group of people. Gender stereotypes are all of the assumptions made about boys and girls. Gender stereotypes tell us that boys have to be strong, athletic, and rambunctious and that girls have to be quiet, calm, and care about their looks. We know that all boys aren’t the same and all girls aren’t the same. We all have some things about us that fit the stereotype and some things that don’t.

**Gender stereotypes are harmful because:**

- Gender stereotypes hold us back! They make us feel pressure to act and look certain ways that we might not want.

- Gender stereotypes make it seem okay to assume things about people. Everyone is different, and it’s best to get to know them first.

- When people don’t fit their gender stereotype, they might feel left out or get made fun of.

At WISE, we want to get rid of gender stereotypes. We want everyone to be themselves!

**Activity**

- Take a look at the advertisements on the next page. Find three stereotypes about boys and three stereotypes about girls.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stereotypes About Boys</th>
<th>Stereotypes About Girls</th>
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- Then create your own advertisement! Pick any product you want and design an advertisement without any gender stereotypes. You can create an advertisement using materials you have around your house or digitally using apps you have on your phone or computer. You might even record a commercial! If you email us your final product, we will share it on our social media. Send to: celine@wiseuv.org.
Because boys test their shoes to destruction, so do we.

Because girls love comfort and style, we design both into our shoes.

Walmart
Saw money. Live better.

WARRIORS
DON'T CRY OVER
SPLIT SKIN.

When you're named top-scorer in your league and your coach still doesn't want you to score because, you know, he just wants to win. That's when you know. Don't let those shadows get in your head.

JUST DO IT
WE'RE PLAYING COME WHAT MAY.

LEGO
Friends

LEGO
STAR WARS

5-12
41009

6-12
75001

Republic Troopers vs. Sith Troopers

£11.99