



When Worlds Collide

From *40 Lessons to Get Children Thinking* by Peter Worley

Listen to the first part of the story: <https://bit.ly/2LHwvRJ>

Do: Circle the sentences you agree with.

1. The inventor of the ship should get the first seat.
2. Young people should get a spot before old people.
3. The smartest people should get a spot first.
4. The richest people should get a spot first.
5. The healthiest people should get a spot first.

Wonder: Who should go? Why? Can you think of others who would deserve a place?

Question: How should *who goes* be decided? How about some of these suggestions:

1. It should be randomly decided who rides.
2. It should be 'first come, first served.'
3. Everyone should vote on who rides.
4. There should be a competition to determine who rides.

Critical Thinking Skill

If you liked thinking about this, why not contact kim@philosophy-foundation.org for further information on joining online philosophy sessions or Q&As with a philosopher.

When trying to make a decision it is important to think about the best way to make decisions. Rather than just thinking about the answer to 'who should go' we should also consider 'how should we decide who goes?'. Thinking about the second question helps us think more clearly about the answer to the first question.

Re-think: Now you've thought about how to decide who should go, does that change your mind about the first question: who should go?

Listen to the second part of the story: <https://bit.ly/2ZkBzUd>

Wonder: Do you agree with the first saboteur, that it's fairer if no-one goes? Why or why not?

Do you agree with the second saboteur, that we should not contaminate another planet? Why or why not?

Taking it further: Are people of equal value? When might someone think that they're not?

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