The red ribbon

World AIDS Day
... was the first ever global health day.
... is a great opportunity to raise money.
... is an opportunity for people to learn the facts about HIV.
... was first held in 1988.

More than 90,000 people are currently living with HIV in the UK and globally an estimated 33.3 million people have HIV.
You can show your support for people living with HIV on World AIDS Day by wearing a red ribbon.

What is HIV?

• HIV stands for the Human Immunodeficiency Virus. It is a virus which attacks the body’s immune system - the body’s defence against diseases. When someone is described as living with HIV, they have the HIV virus in their body.

What is AIDS?

• AIDS stands for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. A person with HIV is considered to have developed AIDS when the immune system is so weak it can no longer fight off a range of diseases with which it would normally cope.

Starter - true or false

• You can now get tested for HIV using a saliva sample.
- True
• Over 90% of people with HIV were infected through sexual contact.
- True
• HIV can be passed on through spitting, biting or sharing utensils.
- False
• All babies born to HIV-positive mothers have HIV.
- False
• You can get the results of an HIV test in just 15-20 minutes.
- True
• There is a cure for HIV.
- False

Myth Truth We need to raise awareness because ...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Myth</th>
<th>Truth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If you get HIV you’ll die soon.</td>
<td>False</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People living with HIV have to take lots of pills every day to stay healthy.</td>
<td>True</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only gay men get HIV.</td>
<td>False</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your partner would automatically tell you if they had HIV.</td>
<td>False</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Why is it important to raise awareness?

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• Around the room, there are six different facts about HIV.
• Read all six facts.
• Stand by the one which you think is the best reason for why we need to raise awareness of HIV.
• ‘I think we need to raise awareness of HIV because …’
Activity

• Using your chosen fact (or a myth from your grid), make a poster to raise awareness of HIV.
• You don’t have to write your chosen fact on the poster, but should keep it in mind as you make the poster.
• You might want to include other facts you have learnt today.
• Use colour and images to make the poster eye-catching.

Why is it important to raise awareness?

Facts about HIV and AIDS

- There are more than 90,000 people living with HIV in the UK.
- Over a quarter of people with HIV in the UK don’t know they are infected.
- Worldwide, 2.6 million people were newly infected with HIV in 2009.
- In some parts of the world (particularly within sub-Saharan Africa) 15-28% of the population are living with HIV.
- Half of adults with HIV were diagnosed at a late stage of infection (after the point at which treatment should have begun).
- With the right medical help, 99% of HIV-positive women give birth to healthy babies without passing on HIV.

Plenary

• One person gives a reason why it is important to raise awareness of HIV.

• The next person then gives an example of something you could do to raise awareness of HIV and AIDS.