EAE

Very Superstitious?

German writer Johann Wolfgang von Goethe said "Superstition is the poetry of life." On the other hand, British statesman Edmund Burke said that "Superstition is the religion of feeble minds." What's your opinion?

Activity One : Let's brainstorm as many superstitions as we can.

Activity Two : Answer the questions and then let's take a look at the information on the modal verbs WOULD, COULD and SHOULD.

- Would you open up your umbrella inside the house ?
- Could you walk under a ladder and still feel safe ?
- Should you be afraid if you break a mirror ?

Activity Three : Do the quiz to find out how superstitious you are ?

1 A black cat is headed in your direction. You
- a) Hightail it out of the area
- b) Let it cross your path
- c) Start saying "here kitty, kitty"

2 You walk into the bedroom and see a hat on the bed. You think
- a) "Whose is that ?
- b) "That's where I put my hat!"
- c) "Uh oh."

3 A ladder blocks the sidewalk. You
- a) Walk under it
- b) Walk around it
- c) Stop to chat with the person on the ladder

4 You drop a mirror and it breaks. You
- a) Sigh, and expect seven years of bad luck
- b) Calmly sweep up the broken pieces
- c) Say "whoops!"

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5 You give a friend a new wallet. You place inside it
- a) A picture of you
- b) A $50 bill
- c) A shiny penny

6 You think Fridays are
- a) Great days, because the work week ends
- b) Unlucky days
- c) The days after Thursdays

7 You spill some salt. You immediately
- a) Pick some up and throw it over your left shoulder
- b) Spill some pepper
- c) Brush the salt off the table and onto the floor

8 A "friend" sends you a chain letter. You
- a) Throw it away
- b) Follow the letter's directions
- c) Forget about it

9 You drink all the bubbles on the surface of your cup of coffee, so that you will
- a) Cool your coffee
- b) Make a new friend
- c) Soon have lots of money

10 Your neighbor tells you he has a new rabbit's foot. Your first thought is
- a) "Gosh, that will bring you good luck"
- b) "That is really gross"
- c) "That must be really awkward"

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Activity Four : Now let's re-write the quiz questions using model verbs.

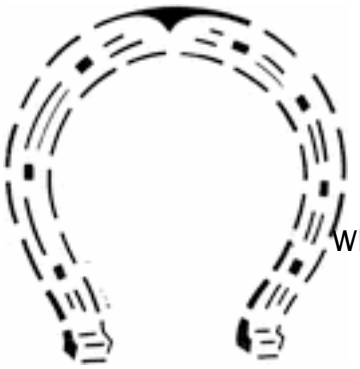
Activity Five : Listen to the song

Very superstitious, writings on the wall,
Very superstitious, ladders bout to fall,
Thirteen month old baby, broke the lookin glass
Seven years of bad luck, the good things in your past.

When you believe in things that you dont understand,
Then you suffer,
Superstition aint the way

Very superstitious, wash your face and hands,
Rid me of the problem, do all that you can,
Keep me in a daydream, keep me goin strong,
You dont wanna save me, sad is my song.

When you believe in things that you dont understand,
Then you suffer,
Superstition aint the way, yeh, yeh.



Very superstitious, nothin more to say,
Very superstitious, the devils on his way,
Thirteen month old baby, broke the lookin glass,
Seven years of bad luck, good things in your past

When you believe in things that you dont understand,
Then you suffer,
Superstition aint the way, no, no, no

Activity Six : Which superstitions does Stevie refer to in this song ? Now, using model verbs, write a rule for each of the superstitions he talks about.

Activity Seven : Discussion – If you could start a superstition what would it be ? Try and invent several.

Activity Eight : Role Play.

Act out a situation where you are telling someone what to do based on a new and entirely unknown superstition as above.