

# Random Acts of Connection - creative responses

## \* Objectives

- > To reflect on the importance of strong, meaningful connections
- > To creatively respond

## \* Introduction

Show learners Nighthawks and Automat by Edward Hopper.

Hopper painted beguiling pictures of ordinary folk and everyday lives - individuals lost in thought; groups of people, each isolated and remote; private dramas played out in public places. He distilled a truth about the

modern urban experience: that we can be living and working in a vibrant, bustling city, surrounded by entertainment, community and opportunity – and yet still feel terribly empty and lonely. Edward Hopper paints loneliness in realism. Hopper himself led a life of solitude. When we think of Edward Hopper's paintings, we think of disconnect.



## \* Activities

Creatively respond to the piece. What do Edward Hopper's paintings convey?

## Loneliness tip

We all feel lonely at times – it's a natural human emotion. We're biologically wired for social contact, and loneliness is our signal that we need more. It's a common misconception that loneliness is limited to older people. In fact, 16-24-year-olds are the loneliest age group in the UK. You don't have to be on your own to feel lonely - you might feel lonely while spending time with friends or family, on social media, or at school. You can feel lonely if you feel like you are not being understood by those around you. Loneliness is not a mental health condition.