WHAT DO YOU SEE?

PROCEDURE:

1. Explain to the students that you are going to show a picture on the overhead. You want them to look at it and think about what they see but not say yet.

2. Show the transparency without giving it a title.

3. Ask students what they see in the picture.

4. Select one student who sees the young woman to point her out to the others. Do the same for the old woman.

5. Explain to students that some people see an eagle and a beaver. Explain that other people may see other things.

6. Ask:
   Why did some people see a young woman while others saw an old women, a beaver while others saw an eagle? Is there a correct way to see the picture?

What did you feel towards those who saw the drawing the same way you did? Towards those who saw it differently?

What did you feel when you "discovered" the other aspect of the picture?

Was there ever a time when you saw something one way and someone else saw it differently?

How did you feel about the person who saw that situation differently?

Closure:
If it’s true that two people can look at the same picture and see something different without either being wrong, how might this affect a conflict?

What if each person sees the situation a different way? How can they figure out a resolution to the conflict if they are both right about what they see?

OBJECTIVES:

The student will:
• Understand how people may have different perceptions of the same event
• Appreciate that seeing things differently does not necessarily mean that someone is right or wrong.

MATERIALS:

• Transparency of “Perception Picture”
• Overhead projector.
First published as "My wife and My Mother-in-Law" in Puck, 1915.
Designed by the American Psychologist E. G. Boring.