



Assembly... Plus!

This pack is aimed at encouraging Year Six students to consider assembly themes in more depth. You can of course adapt the ideas below for any year group. We hope they will get your class thinking and talking about the topic. All of our resources are available to download at: www.splashschools.org.uk/resources

Lesson objective: to consider what it means to be a light for others.

<p>Introduction: how does it feel to be in the dark?</p>	<p>The assembly starts with the Splash team struggling to find their way in the dark. Start the lesson with a game in the dark or a blindfold challenge, as a whole class or in pairs (for ideas, see resource sheet). Discuss: How does it make you feel when you can't see? How does it make things more difficult? What do you need to help you in this challenge?</p>	
<p>Main: What does it mean to "be a light"?</p>	<p>Spend some time with the class thinking about practical ways to 'be a light' and help others, including in the pandemic. There are ideas of kindness acts, quotes about kindness and other resources on www.randomactsofkindness.org Could you try some of these in school? You could have a class debate. Here are some statements you could use: - Everyone is kind; you don't have to work at it like you do at other things. - It's too hard to be kind to others in 2020 as we have to follow rules like social distancing. - It's easier to be kind to others if it's part of your faith/religion. Take time to talk about the events of this year and how we have seen others being a light, nationally and locally. Here's a news story about people being kind in April this year: www.youtube.com/watch?v=8qNJyA--rvc</p>	<p>Give pairs or small groups a light or torch and challenge them to make the light as dark as they can without turning it off. Now try to make the light as bright as you can. Where is the best place to put it to make the light effective in the room? Ask children to look up Matthew 5, verses 14-16 in Bibles (or use resource sheet). What does Jesus mean in this passage? Discuss: where do we put lights (at home, in our community, at Christmas etc.)? Why do we choose those places to put them? What does this mean for Christians and the way they should live their lives? Children could spend time in prayer or writing a reflective journal about how they can be a light that shines and isn't hidden under a bowl. Children might enjoy the Hillsong worship song <i>Let Your Light Shine</i>, which links with this theme: www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZDV_3FYwYdo</p>
	<p>In the assembly we talked about "being a light". The phrase "being a light" is a <i>metaphor</i> to describe someone being kind and bringing goodness into the world. This lends itself well to a lesson on metaphors and creating other metaphors that describe the same thing. There are some good examples of poetry about kindness using metaphors at www.poetrysoup.com/poems/kindness/metaphor Children could write their own metaphors about being kind or write a poem entitled "being a light". We'd love to see what they come up with; if the children would like to share their work with the Splash team, please email it to us!</p>	<p>Ask children to look up Psalm 119, verses 105-106 in Bibles (or use resource sheet). In this passage, God is telling us that He is our light, just as Jesus said, "I am the light of the world". What is God promising to do? Give children time to reflect and respond to this. They could create some artwork, music or creative writing about these verses and how the passage makes them feel. They could work in pairs to use torches to light a path for their partner and discuss how Christians could do this using the Bible. Include some prayer time so that children can ask God to help them see the path they should follow in their lives.</p>
<p>Plenary:</p>	<p>Take some time to think about people who are blind, who have a life filled with what we have experienced briefly in this lesson. You could read some information about a charity such as www.rsb.org.uk – there are some good inspirational stories on the home page, For Families page and About Us page. Move on to people who aren't blind BUT can't see which way to go, what to do, the way out of a problem etc. Take a moment of silence to think about these people in your life. How could you help them?</p>	

Games in the dark

Signals

Put the class into pairs. Partners decide on a signal with their torches (such as two long flashes, three short, or something similar) and then scatter to different spots in the area. Players must find their way to their partners in the dark by identifying their signal. Players have to make sure their signals don't get mixed up with others' which often leads to mixed-up fun.

Morse Code

One player faces the class with a torch/light. Using the morse code alphabet, they signal a word for everyone to guess. Dots are a short burst of light, dashes a long burst of light.

Scavenger Hunt

Turn all the lights off and pair up the children. Give each pair a torch and ask them to collect a number of specific items within a time limit. At the end of the time limit, turn on the lights and see how each pair did.

Red Light Green Light

Pick one player to be the 'traffic officer' and give them a torch. If possible add some red cellophane or tissue paper to turn it into a red light.

The officer stands at one end of the playing area with their torch while the rest of the players stand at the far end. With the torch off and their back to the players, the officer calls, "Green light!" and players move towards the officer. Within a few seconds, the officer turns quickly towards the players, turns on their red light, and yells, "Red light!" Players should then freeze on the spot. If the officer spots anyone still moving, that player must return to the start line. Play continues until one player manages to get past the officer. That player becomes the officer for the next round.

Games with blindfolds

Trust walk

One person is blindfolded and their partner is sighted. The person takes the other for a walk by holding their hand or arm and talking to them as they go. This activity with blindfolds can progress by:

- Making the route they take more complex with regards to turns and twists
- Low level obstacles to step over can be incorporated such as paper markers
- The contact between the partners can be reduced for example contact only with one finger or perhaps verbal communication only

The sighted partner is there to provide safety and support for the person ensuring that they follow a safe route.

Blindfold rope line

Lay a thin rope line out on the grass. Use a rope about 10m long. Players are blindfolded one at a time and are challenged to walk the line. More points for getting further, losing points every time they step on the ground other than on the line.

Blindfold line up

Blindfold everyone, then ask them to line up in e.g. height order, birthday order, alphabetical order, shoe size order.

Animal groups

Divide the class into teams and give each team an animal. Now ask everyone to mingle together and then find their own space. Everyone should put blindfolds on at this point and on your signal to make the sound of their animal and find other people of the same type. Eventually everyone should end up with their own team.

Voice in the Dark

One person is seated and blindfolded. Other children, one at a time, say a short message to the person wearing the blindfold using a disguised voice. The aim of the person blindfolded is to guess who is talking.

**From the book of Matthew in the Bible
Matthew 5, verses 14-16 (International Children's Bible)**



Jesus said:

¹⁴ “You are the light that gives light to the world. A city that is built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ And people don’t hide a light under a bowl. They put the light on a lampstand. Then the light shines for all the people in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, you should be a light for other people. Live so that they will see the good things you do. Live so that they will praise your Father in heaven.

**From the book of Psalms in the Bible
Psalm 119, verses 105-106 (International Children's Bible)**



¹⁰⁵ Your word is like a lamp for my feet
and a light for my way.

¹⁰⁶ I will do what I have promised
and obey your fair laws.