



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 we laugh at and how to spread joy.

Introduction:	<p>Laughter can be very good for us! Reflect on the video assembly and respond with the class in one of these ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tell your best jokes – which ones make you laugh? Does everyone laugh at the same things? - Play the sausages game (see resource sheet). Why is it so hard to stop yourself from laughing? Would it be easier if only the question master and player were in the room? Why? - Recap the facts about laughter with Professor Gilly Giggle (you can watch this section again at 10:40). Did anything in this section surprise you? Did you know laughter was so good for you? How does laughter make you feel? - If you haven't already, reflect on the question "What brings you joy?" and discuss the answer in pairs or as a class, or share examples of times when you couldn't stop laughing. 	
Main:	<p>Recap the story of Harry the Hyena (you can watch this section again at 4:47). In the story, Harry became aware that he was laughing at the wrong things. When is the right time to laugh? Can you think of a time when someone was laughing at you, not with you? How did it feel?</p> <p>In small groups, children act out scenarios that end in laughter (see resource sheet). Show to the class and discuss – was that appropriate laughter? Try replaying the drama without people joining in with the laughter – what might happen next?</p> <p>The key point for children to realise here is: if you don't join in with unkind laughter, you could stop it.</p>	<p>Recap the story of Harry the Hyena (you can watch this section again at 4:47). In the story, Harry became aware that he was laughing at the wrong things. When is the right time to laugh? Can you think of a time when someone was laughing at you, not with you? How did it feel?</p> <p>In small groups, children act out scenarios that end in laughter (see resource sheet). Show to the class and discuss – was that appropriate laughter? Try replaying the drama without people joining in with the laughter – what might happen next?</p> <p>The key point for children to realise here is: if you don't join in with unkind laughter, you could stop it.</p>
	<p>Spend some more time reflecting on finding your joy. Take some time to go outside and sit quietly. Look out in creation – what makes you laugh or brings you joy?</p> <p>This could be a time for thinking, mindfulness or praying, for sketching, for writing, or for sharing with a partner.</p> <p>You could also use a song for reflection time, such as What A Wonderful World: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p-T6aaRV9HY or Creation Sings: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D7rA0_dMHvo</p>	<p>Ask children to look up Ecclesiastes 3, verse 4 in Bibles (or use resource sheet). You could look at verses 1-8 if your class could have a more profound discussion.</p> <p>We spoke about this verse in the assembly. What does it mean to you? Can you think of examples when your experienced 'a time to laugh'? Can you think of times when you shouldn't have laughed?</p> <p>Give children time to reflect on this and come up with ideas. They could pray about it, talk to a partner or make lists of 'a time to laugh' and 'not a time to laugh'. You could also link this to the drama scenarios (see resource sheet).</p>
Plenary:	<p>Discuss how children felt during their activity and what they have learnt about laughter. What you laugh at is important. Joining in makes it better or worse, depending on the situation! As you get older, you'll come across plenty of laughter and you'll have to decide whether to join in. If you join in with unkind laughter, are you spreading joy? Christians ask God to help them make these choices through prayer. It also helps to have good friends around you, so you can make the choices together.</p>	