



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 ways to cope with change.

Introduction:	<p>Change happens to all of us, and as Year Sixes, you're about to go through plenty of change. Discuss the various changes that might be coming – moving schools, puberty, getting the bus, being allowed out alone, having your own phone, growing, COVID rules relaxing...</p> <p>Recap the beach ball scene in the assembly. When a change is “thrown” at you, you might know it's coming or it might be a surprise, but we all react differently and that's ok. Using a ball, repeat this game with the children. They could work in pairs, groups or as a class – name a change, throw the ball and the receiver gives an example of how someone might react.</p> <p>Pull out that all reactions are valid and you may experience more than one, or different reactions for different changes. If you're struggling with a change, it's really important to talk about it.</p>	
Main:	<p>Now is a good chance to spend some time looking at the transition to secondary school, to complement the other work you might be doing. There are lots of resources from Scripture Union to go with their “It's Your Move” initiative. You can find out more here: https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/its-your-move On their YouTube channel, you can find a workshop video as well as shorter clips of Y7 students talking about their transition, all of which could be useful as you explore the change with your class. https://www.youtube.com/c/SUEnglandandWales</p>	<p>Recap the story of Jesus calling the disciples (you can watch this section again at 2:24). Imagine what it was like for the disciples to leave their homes and go with Jesus. Imagine what it might have been like for their families, e.g. Zebedee who we saw in the boat in the video. You might like to read or listen to an extract from “Diary of a Disciple” by Gemma Willis (see PowerPoint resource).</p> <p>Choose a Bible character and write in role, describing how they feel about this huge change in their lives.</p>
	<p>Change is natural – lots of changes happen in the world around us. Children to discuss and mind map all the changes they can think of. These could include changes in e.g. plants, animals, humans, climate, landscape. Look up and discuss images of metamorphosis, e.g. the images of the caterpillar changing into a butterfly (see resource sheet). Here, the change is difficult and must be confusing for the creature when it is happening, but what an amazing change. Sometimes it can help us to cope with change when we remember that it can help us to grow and change as a person. Children could respond by sketching a change in nature while reflecting on how a change could help them to grow and develop.</p>	<p>Ask children to look up Acts 9, verses 1-19 in Bibles (or use resource sheet). This story of Saul includes many changes. Discuss these as a class or in pairs. How would Saul have felt:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at the beginning of the story • after meeting Jesus • after losing his sight • at the end of the story <p>Saul went on to teach many people about Jesus the Messiah. His understanding of Jesus changed, the purpose of his life changed, where he was living changed and his friends changed. He also changed his name from Saul to Paul. Children could rewrite the story in role as Paul, describing his feelings as his life changed.</p>
Plenary:	<p>Discuss: Change isn't easy. Sometimes we can feel really negative, anxious or angry about a change and this is perfectly normal. We might be worried about speaking out in case others don't understand, but everybody feels this sometimes. Talk to someone you trust. Christians also talk to God in prayer. When a change happens, sometimes it can feel like everything is changing at once, like a whirlwind. Try to find something that will stay the same. There will always be something, no matter how small, that you can focus on while other things are changing. Christians believe that God is unchanging and this can help too.</p>	