



# 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](http://www.splashschools.org.uk/resources)

## Lesson objective: to know why forgiveness is important for ourselves and others.

<p>Introduction :</p>	<p>In the assembly, we saw two silly situations – one person sitting on a wasp and another carrying a bag full of rocks! Both of these help us think about how it feels when we don't forgive someone. You might want to offer the children a taste of something bitter, e.g. ginger, horseradish, lemon or lime, as a sensory experience of this feeling.</p> <p>Watch again the <a href="#">video</a> of children that was used in the assembly – think about how many of these things have happened to you.</p> <p>Key question: <b>Why wouldn't you want to forgive someone?</b> Discuss the reasons that people find it hard to forgive and allow it to keep hurting them.</p>	
<p>Main:</p>	<p>A great visual way to teach about the impact of forgiveness is with a Science experiment. There are several suggestions online so you could choose your own, but the "pepper and soap" experiment is easy to do as a demonstration or for children to do in pairs or small groups.</p> <p>See resource sheet or online <a href="#">instructions</a>.</p> <p>After the experiment, discuss the effects together and ask children to explain how this represents forgiving someone. Can they see the link?</p> <p><i>Forgiveness is letting go of bitterness and revenge. When someone does something wrong to us it is like the water that has been dirtied by the pepper. That can damage relationships and make it hard to be friends. The way any relationship is restored is by forgiveness. Just like the soap clears away the pepper, when we forgive someone we clear away the wrong they did to us.</i></p>	<p>Use class Bibles (or resource sheet) to look up Matthew 18:21-22. Jesus tells us to forgive people over and over again. This is really hard! Watch this <a href="#">Douglas Talks</a> episode or this <a href="#">BBC clip</a> to explore this.</p> <p>The clips show that it's important to forgive others, not just for them but also for <b>us</b>.</p> <p>Ask children to draw round their hand to create a hand shape on paper.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Think about why it is important to forgive someone and write it in the palm.</li> <li>• On each digit, write a way you can forgive someone.</li> </ul> <p>Share ideas with a partner. Children could cut out the hand and keep it as a reminder when someone upsets them.</p>
	<p>Look at the poem "Pockets full of rocks" (see resource sheet). This story is like the person in assembly with a bag of rocks. This is something that lots of people do.</p> <p>Ask children to take some time to consider whether they have any 'rocks' – things that they haven't forgiven other people for. (If this isn't an issue for certain children, ask them to think about how they could help someone else if they had 'rocks' - what advice would you give?)</p> <p>You could try a mindfulness meditation about forgiveness with your class, using the resource sheet or this <a href="#">online video</a>.</p>	<p>Use class Bibles (or resource sheet) to look up Proverbs 17:9.</p> <p>Discuss the proverb in pairs and talk about what it might mean. What would someone be doing if they 'tell about the sin' and why would it break up a friendship?</p> <p>Have a class discussion about this. Why would someone go and tell everyone else about an incident instead of forgiving? Have you ever experienced this? Discuss together the problems of gossiping. There may be class examples that you can work through together. You may wish to give the children some time to pray about their choices and ask for help to forgive others.</p>
<p>Plenary:</p>	<p>A lack of forgiveness leads to bearing a grudge or seeking revenge. What problems in the world might have been caused by a lack of forgiveness?</p> <p>We must remember that forgiveness is a <b>choice</b> – and choose it!</p>	