

Story of the two donkeys

What you'll need: a narrator

two children to act as the donkeys

piece of rope

2 bowls



Narrator: Once upon a time there were two donkeys who were tied together in the farmyard, and who were very hungry. **(actors rub their tummies and look hungry!)** The farmer had left them two boxes of food in the yard for them, one for the first donkey over there **(point to left-hand side)** and one for the second donkey over there **(point to the right-hand side)**.

Each donkey saw that the food had been left but they were still tied together. They each tried to reach their food, but they couldn't. They were just as strong as each other, so however hard they pulled on their rope, they couldn't reach their own food. They began to get cross with each other, angry and agitated, pulling the rope this way and that!

Eventually, feeling tired and out of breath, they sat down next to each other, even hungrier than before. It really was a "lose-lose" situation. Neither of the donkeys could get what they needed. And both were now annoyed and cross!

Teacher: So, what could the donkeys do? Do you remember what happened in the assembly? (after a short discussion, ask a volunteer to act as the peacemaker and ask them to tell the donkeys what they should do.

Narrator: So, the donkeys listened to the "peacemaker" and they recognised that there was a good solution to their problem. They went together to the first donkey's food and shared it, never once pulling on the rope, and once that food had all gone, they then went to the other donkey's food bowl and shared all that. So, they both got enough food, didn't they? Then they both sat down happily together. The "peacemaker" had helped them find a "win-win" solution, and that meant that both donkeys were happy.



For this experiment you will need you will need: -

1. Measuring tablespoon
2. cooking oil
3. water
4. food colouring
5. washing-up liquid
6. 1 litre plastic bottle.

Instructions

- Pour 8 tablespoons of oil into a bottle, then top up the bottle with water until it is about half full.
- Add 5 drops of food colouring (or enough to show that the water has been coloured, red works well) then put the lid on tightly and shake until you think it's well mixed.
- Let it settle. What happens? It just separates again into oil and water!
- Add a few drops of washing-up liquid.
- What happens?
- The washing-up liquid reacts with both oil and water to form an emulsion – it joins them together.

Explain how opposites (like water and oil) can be brought together if something else is added that reacts with both. Talk about how, when people quickly take sides and refuse to come together to solve their differences, a peacemaker can intervene to help solve a conflict and bring the two people together again.

BIBLE REFERENCES

John 14:27

International Children's Bible

²⁷ "I leave you peace. My peace I give you. I do not give it to you as the world does. So don't let your hearts be troubled. Don't be afraid.

Galatians 5:22-23

International Children's Bible

²² But the Spirit gives love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control. There is no law that says these things are wrong.

Philippians 4:6-7

International Children's Bible

⁶ Do not worry about anything. But pray and ask God for everything you need. And when you pray, always give thanks. ⁷ And God's peace will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. The peace that God gives is so great that we cannot understand it.



**THE DAY THE POWER
OF LOVE OVERRULES
THE LOVE OF POWER,
THE WORLD WILL
KNOW PEACE.**

— Mahatma Gandhi

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