



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: learning to have a positive impact on our environment by all of us taking a quiet responsibility for caring for the world around us.

Introduction	The assembly opened with Nick/Julia thinking that they had to be the one who took on all the responsibility of clearing up other peoples' rubbish. However, as the conversation with Lois continued, they began to realise that, in actual fact, it was "everyone's quiet responsibility to do their part in looking after the planet. Consider this question as a class, "what sort of world do you want to grow up in?" "	
Main	<p>Based on those answers given by your students in the introduction of this lesson plan, in small groups plan a short talk, to give to the rest of the class, about the benefits of growing up in world where everyone recycles, no one drops litter, and everyone is saving energy and conserving water.</p> <p>In pairs, or small groups, read this statement "Behind every crisp packet you see by the side of the road, every drink can in a pond or river, and bottle caps where there should be seashells, a choice was made: someone left it there." Discuss this statement. Do you think this is true? Have you ever made a choice to drop litter and why did you do it and not put it in a bin?</p> <p>Take your class outside and encourage them to look around and ask them to make a list of every natural thing they can see. Use attached document headed "What can you see?" Trees, grass, rocks, clouds, birds—everything counts! Once they've noticed all the obvious things, ask them to keep looking. What about that ant crawling across your big toe? That tiny flower peeking out from under the clover leaves? The bird nest almost hidden in the tree branches above.</p>	<p>In the assembly we mention Adam from Genesis in the Bible – whom God tasked with the responsibility for caring for creation. We believe this role has been passed onto us! Christians are encouraged to connect our quest to love God with the world that He made. If we believe that God created the universe and saw that "it was very good", if we believe that He loves us as He loves all His human creatures, then if we say 'I love God'... what does that mean for our attitudes and actions towards His creation?</p> <p>In groups ask the class to create a collage – either words or drawings of the things that they love about creation – things or places that they appreciate.</p> <p>Your class might like to watch this YouTube clip. https://youtu.be/X2YgM1Zw4_E?feature=shared They can then add ideas (to the collage) of what they might change in their lives to be able to appreciate and protect creation.</p>
	<p>Children will protect the things that they love. If they experience the outdoors as much as possible, and in all weathers too, they'll want to look after it without very much encouragement at all. Encourage 15 minutes of quiet, reflective silence where the children can spend time drawing something from nature that they love. Maybe you could play this calming video as they draw.</p> <p>https://youtu.be/EJ1mszRkUtc?si=eO1VmWY3TNCpbu2f</p>	<p>You may like to play the link below to your class. https://youtu.be/k5d8FOYZQ4c?feature=shared</p> <p>In 2023 the National Gallery hosted the first UK art exhibition exploring Saint Francis of Assisi's life and legacy. Presenting the art and imagery of Saint Francis (1182–1226) from the 13th century to today, this exhibition looked at why this saint is a figure of enormous relevance to our time due to his spiritual radicalism, commitment to the poor, and love of God and nature, as well as his powerful appeals for peace, and openness to dialogue with other religions. (See Review below)</p> <p>https://youtu.be/19z3VQIXUwA?feature=shared</p> <p>Your class maybe inspired to produce their own piece of art based about an aspect of St Francis' life.</p>
Plenary	<p>Read this quote to your students, made by a very famous young girl – Anne Frank.</p> <p>"I firmly believe nature brings solace in all troubles."</p> <p>Do you know who she was? Do some research and discover her story. You can find a very brief outline here https://youtu.be/7o8jSbCanv0?si=YIUJED-YsE3qVaTL</p> <p>What do you think she meant by "solace." Maybe the children will need to look up the definition. How can our wonderful world give us solace?</p>	