

## Community Collective Worship – Teacher Guidance (KS1, 1)

Some of these games and activities assume will work better in a class setting, rather than a full key stage (depending on your numbers!) You might decide to play them back in your classroom after worship has finished, or use them during the week to remind the children of the themes you have been discussing.

### Gathering

**Slide 1** As the children come in, play [Clapping Music](#) again. Remind them that it's an example of good teamwork, they have to listen carefully to each other and work together.

**Rhythm Game** If the children are in a circle, teach them a simple rhythm, with three parts, using different parts of your body, such as touching your head, shoulders and knees. Ask them to copy it, then repeat with a different rhythm, e.g. clap twice and touch your head.

When they are good at this, go round the circle and ask each child to make up a rhythm with three actions for the others to copy.

Remind them that the theme for collective worship is community, and we are continuing to think about working in a team with other people.

**Slide 2** Start worship in your usual way, e.g. lighting a candle, saying the school prayer etc.

### Engaging

**Slide 3** Today we are going to think more about how Jesus worked in a team with his friends (or disciples). He didn't try to do everything himself, because he wanted his disciples to learn to work together as a team or a community.

**Slide 4** Show the [video](#) of Jesus choosing his first group of disciples.

**OR** tell the story yourself, e.g. from the Lion storyteller Bile ([Jesus' Special Friends](#) p80 – 81) and ask them to add some simple actions such as mending their nets, rowing the boat, throwing the nets out, hauling in a catch of fish, listening to Jesus and waving goodbye to their family and friends.

**Slide 5** The people in Jesus' team were all very different, but Jesus knew that they all had important qualities and useful skills and that he needed each one of them in his team.

Andrew and Peter were fishermen, why would they have been good in Jesus' team? (e.g. they were strong and hardworking. ) James and John were brothers and they were fishermen too.

Matthew was a tax collector, why would he have been useful? (He was good with money / good at Maths.) He was good at writing too, because he went on to write one of the books in the Bible, Mathew's gospel. You could open a Bible and show them where this is – it's the first book in the New Testament.

Simon was a soldier, so he'd have been brave and fit.

They didn't always get on with each other, there are stories in the Bible about them arguing about who was the best. Why do you think Jesus wanted such different people on his team? What if everyone was exactly the same?

Jesus' team were all very different from each other, but each one of them was important. If one of them had been missing, then the team wouldn't have worked properly.

**Slide 6** Each one of us is unique. Christians believe that God made each one of us and gave us each special talents – special things that we’re good at and special qualities we have like being kind, or thoughtful, or hard-working, or being able to make other people laugh.

As the children to sit quietly for a minute and to think about the special qualities they have and the difference they can make to their family, or their group of friends, or their class, or the school.

If appropriate you could choose a child at random and ask the others to tell you what special qualities they have. For example you could play **Heads or Tails**. Ask the children to stand up and put their hands on their head or their tail (bottom). Toss a coin, and whoever chose correctly stays standing while the others sit down. Continue to play until just one child is left. This would be a good game to return to at odd moments during the week to remind the children that they all have special qualities.

OR play the **hedgehog game**. The children move round the room to some music. When the music stops, they have to curl up on the floor like a hedgehog. Put a blanket over one child and the others stand up and have to work out who it is. Then they say why that child makes a good friend.

OR play the **beanbag game**. Sit in a circle, throw the beanbag to a child and say something that’s special about them. They then throw the beanbag to someone else and pay them a compliment – and so on round the room. This works best if you talk first about what kind of comments to make – ‘she has a nice smile’ rather than ‘she has nice shoes.’

## Responding

**Slide 7** Ask the children to sit quietly while you read this prayer – and invite them to say amen at the end if they agree with it.

Dear God,  
Thankyou that we are all unique.  
Thank you that we all have special qualities.  
Help us to see the good in other people  
And to work well as a team.  
Amen.

**Slide 8** Sing [‘Life is Always Better’](#) (the flourishing song). Ask the children how they think it links to the theme of today’s worship.

## Sending

Challenge the children to play with someone they don’t usually play with.

Ask them to think about the good qualities in other people.

**Slide 9** You may like to play the [Clapping Music](#) again as the children leave.

