

Community Collective worship - Teacher Guidance (KS1, 2)

Gathering

Slide 1 As the children come in, play this different version of [Clapping Music](#).

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

Competition Organise a simple competition for a group of children and have a bowl of sweets as a prize for the winner. (Or fruit, depending on your school's healthy eating policy!) E.g. who can stand on one leg the longest, who can do the most star jumps, who can bunny hop across the room most quickly.

Tell the winner that you'll look after the sweets until the end of worship.

Slide 3 Ask the children to look at the photo. What words would they use to describe it?

Who do you think these children are? What do you think they're doing? Why do they think that?

Tell them this true story.

Once, an English woman was visiting a village in South Africa. She saw a group of children playing nearby and she decided to organise a competition.

She'd brought lots of sweets with her, so she put them in a bowl and placed it under a tree. She told them they were going to have a race, when she said 'Go' they had to run as fast as they could and the first person to reach the bowl of sweets could have them all.

What do you think happened when she said 'Go'?

When she said 'Go!' the children all held hands with each other and ran across the field together, making sure that everyone arrived at the sweets at the same time. Then they shared the sweets out, so that everyone had the same amount.

The woman was very surprised. She asked the children why they had all run together, especially when the child who got there first could have had all the sweets.

A young girl told her: 'How can one of us be happy if all the others are sad?'

Why do you think the woman was so surprised?

What did the girl mean when she said one person couldn't be happy if everyone was sad?

Slide 4 The children told the women that this was called *Ubuntu*. Ubuntu is an African word, that means something like 'I am who I am, because of who you are.' What do the children think this means? *There's no exact translation of Ubuntu in English, but the idea is that I can only be completely me together with other people.*

Slide 5 What difference would Ubuntu make in the school playground? Would people play differently together? (Think of the children in the story.)

Slide 6 Would Ubuntu make a difference in your class, if you tried to make sure everyone was included?

Slide 7 What would lunchtime look like, if people tried to show Ubuntu?

Slide 8 Can they think of any more examples of how life at school – or in the wider world might be different if we behaved like the children in the story? (*Would we share more? Would everyone be included? Would we value people who are different from us?*)

Slide 9 Last time we looked at Jesus choosing his team. He chose different sorts of people, who didn't always get on with each other, but he told them to love each other and to work together.

One of his most famous sayings was 'love your neighbour.' Your neighbour may be someone who looks different from you, or who likes different things, or is a different sort of person, but Jesus told his followers that they should love them anyway.

Responding

Ask the children to sit quietly and think about something they could do to show Ubuntu or to love their neighbour – it might be something they're going to do in the playground, or at lunchtime or in the classroom – or perhaps something at home.

Challenge them to look for opportunities to show Ubuntu in the next few days.

Slide 10 Ask the children to listen while you read this prayer – and invite them to say amen at the end if they agree with it.

Dear God,
Thank you for Ubuntu.
Please help us to work together with other people,
In the playground, at lunchtime, in our classrooms and at home.
Help us to love our neighbour.
Amen.

Slide 11 Sing '[Life is Always Better](#)' (the flourishing song). Ask the children how they think it links to the theme of Ubuntu.

Refer back to the competition at the beginning and ask the winner to come up and collect their bowl of sweets. It would be great if they spontaneously offered to share them out, but if not, find a subtle way to prompt them, so it looks as if the idea came from them.

Slide 12 You may like to play the [Clapping Music](#) again as the children leave.

