

23.2 Overcoming Difficulties

Based on Episode 23: Home

Learning objectives:

- To understand that sometimes friends can help us to overcome difficulties
- To know that some Christians can face difficulties when they are trying to do God's work

RE Links:

- England:** 2a) *Reflect on what it means to belong to a faith community, communicating their own and others' responses*
- Isle of Man:** 4E) *Christian values – Can you define the difference between right and wrong?*
5E) *Rules to live by – What extra responsibilities do we have when we belong to a group?*
5F) *How do the beliefs of Christians influence their actions? Why and how do Christians help others? (QCA – 5D)*
6Di) *Christian values – In what way does prejudice influence our attitude to people?*
- Northern Ireland:** *Morality: Respect for each other*
- Scotland:** *Christianity: Beliefs: RME 2-01a*
Catholic schools: Catholic Christianity:
Hours of God: RERC 1-19a / RERC 2-19a
- Wales:** *The importance that religion places on personal relationships and concern for others*

Stimulus material:

Friends and Heroes DVD Episode 23: Home

This lesson is based on the second half of the episode from 09:51 mins when Isaac has finished telling the story about Moses.

Bible reference for the main story:

Paul escapes from the mob
Acts 17:1-10a

Other resources required:

Copies of Worksheet 23.2a – 1 per pupil
Copies of Worksheet 23.2b – quiz questions
Prizes – optional

Introduction:

Give pupils copies of Worksheet 23.2a – an outline of a person.
Ask the pupils to imagine that the outline of the person represents their friends and to draw or write simple descriptions of how their friends help them.
After five minutes or so, bring the class back together and feedback some of the ideas about how friends help each other.

Activities:

Explain that in this week's episode, Macky and the other rebels are facing difficulties and that the characters in the New Testament Bible story are also facing difficulties. Ask the pupils to look out for them as they watch the episode. Explain that after they have watched the episode, you are going to hold a quiz so they will need to watch very carefully.

Show Friends and Heroes Episode 23: Home from 09:51 mins when Isaac has finished telling the story about Moses, to the end of the episode.

Divide the class into teams and have a class quiz about the episode – see Worksheet 23.2b. Either photocopy and give out copies of the quiz to each team, or read the questions out to the class.

Answers

1. Purple
2. Until sunrise
3. They need to destroy the secret passages in Isaac's house before the Romans find them
4. Trumpet
5. Macky and the rebels sound the horns and fire catapults of dust and stones
6. A sheep starts to bleat
7. So that they will have to chase him and be distracted from going to Isaac's house
8. She heard him talking to the other villagers and wanted to help him
9. She suggests that he might have gone for a drink
10. Silas
11. Thessalonica
12. They were telling people about Jesus
13. The leaders of the meeting house were jealous of Paul
14. Jason's house
15. Friends
16. Because they were friends or Because they were Christians (These two possibilities could lead to a class discussion on why Macky and Jason helped their friends)
17. A watermelon

You may like to provide prizes for the winning team.

Once the quiz is over, draw out the idea that in both the Friends and Heroes story and the Bible story Macky and Jason, had to be brave in order to help their friends. Use the following questions to get the pupils to appreciate the gratitude that the friends would have felt:

- How do you think Paul and Silas felt about Jason after they had managed to escape?
- How do you think Isaac, Devorah, Abe and Rachel felt about Macky?

Reflection / Personal search / Response:

Tell the pupils that Macky and Jason were both prepared to be involved in something dangerous because they believed that their friends were doing God's work. Explain that sometimes Christians and other people face difficulties because of what they believe in. Allow the pupils a few moments to think about any difficult situations they might be facing. If it is appropriate, say a prayer to thank God for friends and for how they can help us.

Assessment / reporting:

Can pupils see the effect of Moses being helpful?

Do they understand that their actions affect other people?

Links to other subject areas:

PSHE - SEAL - Relationships – working with others to solve problems

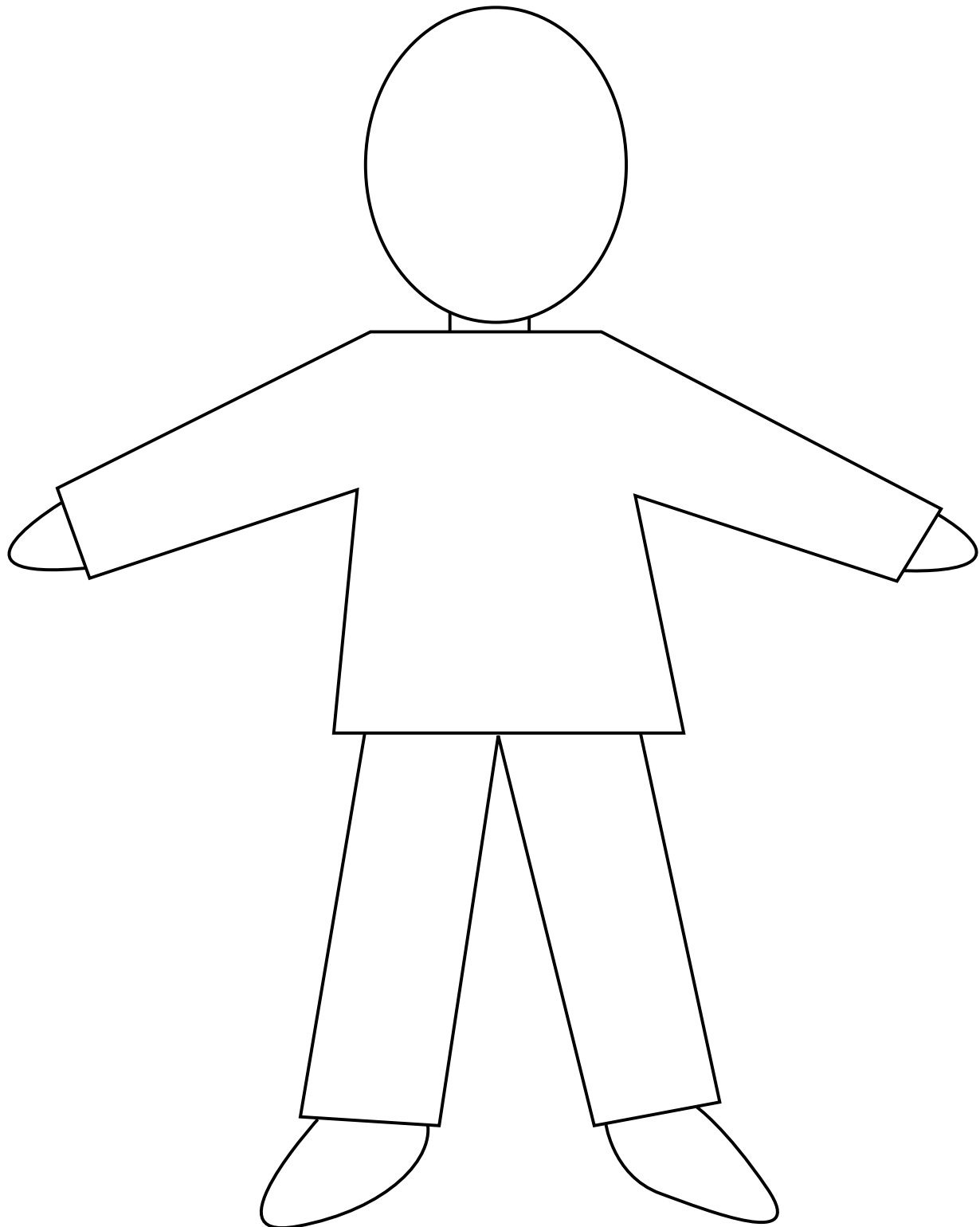
Literacy - Quiz - comprehension of a visual text

Name:

Date:

Worksheet 23.2a

Think about your friends. Draw pictures or write notes on the person below to describe how your friends help you.



Name:

Date:

Worksheet 23.2b

Quiz Questions



1. What is the colour of Macky's belt on his tunic?
2. How long would the oil in Isaac's lamp last?
3. What is the problem that the rebels face?
4. Rachel suggests that the rebels should play a musical instrument like Joshua did at Jericho – what instrument was it?
5. Why does Toadie think that there is an army?
6. What alerts Toadie to the fact that the army isn't real?
7. Why does Macky reveal himself to Toadie and the Romans?
8. Why does the woman hide Macky?
9. How does she make sure that the Romans don't find Macky?
10. In the Bible story, what was the name of Paul's friend?
11. What town were they visiting?
12. Why do you think they were there?
13. What was the problem they faced there?
14. Where did the rioters go to look for Paul?
15. What was the relationship between Jason and Paul?
16. Why does Macky help save Isaac and his family and why does Jason help Paul?
17. What is Toadie eating outside Isaac's house?