

30.2 Foundations

Based on Episode 30: Sowing the Seeds

Learning objectives:

- To recognise rules as one of the foundations on which we build our lives
- To understand that rules need to be heard and acted upon to be effective

RE Links:

England:	1a) <i>Describe the key aspects of religions, especially the people, stories and traditions that influence the beliefs and values of others</i>
Isle of Man:	4Fii) <i>Parables of Jesus – How Jesus communicated His message.</i> 5E) <i>Rules to live by – Why is it necessary to have rules and laws?</i>
Northern Ireland:	<i>The revelation of God: God and the Bible</i>
Scotland:	<i>Christianity: Beliefs: RME 2-01b</i> <i>Catholic schools: Catholic Christianity:</i> <i>Son of God: RERC 1-06b / RERC 2-06b</i>
Wales:	<i>Different forms of authority expressed through religious stories, sacred texts, and religious leaders (including their influence on adherents)</i>

Stimulus material:

Friends and Heroes DVD Episode 30: *Sowing the Seeds.*

This lesson is based on the second half of the episode from 12:30 mins when Macky leaves Babatunji at the circus to the end.

Bible references for the main story:

The Parables of the Sower and the House built on Rock
Matthew 13:1-9 and Matthew 7:24-29

Other resources required:

Building bricks (Lego/multilink, wooden blocks, Jenga pieces, etc.)

Copies of Worksheet 30.2a – cut up so there are enough instructions for one per group of 3/4 pupils

Worksheet 30.2b – game instructions

Introduction:

Introduce the pupils to the Tower Challenge!

Divide the class into groups of 3 or 4 and give them each an equal quantity of building blocks.

Challenge them to build the tallest tower they can manage, but give each of the groups one of the cards photocopied from Worksheet 30.2a. The cards will put limitations on how the group can build their tower. Agree a time limit and let the building begin!

Give a countdown so the pupils know how much building time they have got left.

Once the time is up, allow the pupils an opportunity to look at the different towers that have been built.

- Which is the tallest?
- Which is the most stable?
- Which would survive a strong wind the most effectively?

Continued overleaf...

Once the 'best' tower has been agreed upon, ask the pupils to draw out the features that make it the most stable. (Hopefully, it will be the one with an even width or the one with a number of blocks on the first level.)

Activities:

Explain that in today's episode, Antonius tells Macky two Bible stories that Jesus told.

Show Friends and Heroes DVD Episode 30: Sowing the Seeds from 12:30 mins when Macky leaves Babatunji at the Circus to the end.

Ask the pupils to retell the Bible stories to each other.

- What do they mean?

Explain that Jesus told people the stories because he wanted them to follow his teaching rather than just listening to it. It's often easy to listen to what someone says and agree with it but much harder to actually change our behaviour and follow the instructions.

Briefly illustrate this by playing a game of Simon Says with the pupils – instructions on Worksheet 30.2b.

- What did they have to do to be successful in the game? (listen to and act on the instructions)
- Why do they think Antonius told the stories? (to help Macky to see that even though the Romans were building incredible structures their rule would not last forever because it was cruel and they were not following God's rules)

Explain that Christians believe that not only listening to but also following God's rules helps them to live a life that is pleasing to God; they try to build on 'firm foundations' of truth and love rather than of cruelty and unkindness.

Reflection / Personal search / Response:

Ask the pupils to think about the rules that they are asked to follow at home and at school.

- Why do they think those rules have been put into place?
- Are they to make their lives difficult or to help them as they grow up?

Give them some time to reflect on the rules in their lives, whether they agree with them and whether they choose to follow them or not.

Remind the pupils that Toadie did not play by the rules – he tried to cheat.

- Did that help him in the end?

Assessment / reporting:

Can pupils retell one of the stories told by Jesus?

Can pupils give an example of a rule that they are asked to follow, that should help them as they grow up?

Links to other subject areas:

SEAL - Getting on and falling out: Relationships – helping others and working with other people – team work

Creative/other - Romans – Gladiator fighting

Creative/other - DT – constructing towers/buildings

Creative/other - RE – rules for living

Name:

Date:

Worksheet 30.2a

Instruction cards for The Tower Challenge.

Photocopy and cut them up, then give one card to each group of 3/4 pupils

**The bottom level of
your tower is only
allowed to be one
brick**

**Your tower must be
the same width all
the way up**

**The bottom level of
your tower is only
allowed to be three
bricks**

**You can use as many
bricks as you like for
the bottom level of
your tower**



Name:

Date:

Worksheet 30.2b

Simon Says – instructions

One person is chosen to be 'Simon'. The others have to face 'Simon'.

'Simon' calls out an action for the rest of the class to follow using the phrase

'Simon says . . .'

The 'Simon' can also give a command without using the 'Simon says' phrase.

In this instance, the pupils should not follow the instruction and those that do are out of the game.

Play continues until only one pupil is left.

Ideas for actions:

Put your hands on your head

Touch your nose

Turn around

Touch your toes

Wave your hands in the air

Click your fingers

Stick your tongue out

Shout hooray

March on the spot

Do a star jump

Place one hand on your head

Rub your tummy

Hug a partner

Rotate your wrists

Clap your hands

Touch both ears

Touch both ears with the opposite hands

