

39.1 The resurrection

Based on Episode 39: The Road Ahead

Learning objectives:

- To learn about the miracle of the resurrection
- To know how important the resurrection is for Christians today

RE Links:

England:	3a) <i>Christianity</i>
Isle of Man:	5f) <i>How do the beliefs of Christians influence their actions? How do our beliefs affect the decisions we make? (QCA – 5D)</i>
Northern Ireland:	<i>The life of Jesus: Passion, death and resurrection</i>
Scotland:	<i>Christianity: Beliefs: RME 2-01b Catholic schools: Catholic Christianity: RERC 1-07a / RERC 2-07a</i>
Wales:	<i>Christianity: Celebration, stories</i>

Stimulus material:

Friends and Heroes DVD Episode 39: *The Road Ahead*. This lesson is based on the first half of the episode to 12:27 mins when Macky shares his plan for rescuing the scrolls.

Bible reference for the main story:

*Jesus seen on the road
Luke 24:13-43*

Other resources required:

Prepare a brief description of something amazing that has happened to you personally to retell at the beginning of the lesson, using as much expressive vocabulary and emotion as possible.

Copies of Worksheets 39.1a or 39.1b – choose the most appropriate for your pupils.

Optional – musical instruments for Worksheet 39.1b

Introduction:

Start the lesson by sharing with the class something amazing that has happened to you. Describe it in plenty of detail using as much descriptive language and emotion as you can. Emphasise exactly how it made you feel and why it was such an amazing thing. Ask the pupils to spend a few moments thinking about the most amazing thing that has ever happened to them. Invite a few pupils to share their experiences. Ask the pupils if they can remember any of the amazing things that Jesus has done – they may be able to remember examples from some of the Bible stories shown in other episodes.

Does anyone remember the name given to these amazing happenings? Remind the pupils that these can be referred to as miracles. Explain that in today's extract of Friends and Heroes, we will see the most amazing miracle in the Bible.

Activities:

If the pupils have watched the previous episode of Friends and Heroes (episode 38), ask them questions to establish what happened to Macky and his friends (Macky rescued Antonius from jail) and what happened in the Bible stories (Jesus' trial and crucifixion).

Alternatively, explain that Antonius has been rescued from jail by Macky but that he is still worried about the safety of the scrolls he has been working on. In the Bible stories, we have seen Jesus' trial and crucifixion.

Ask the pupils how the Friends of Jesus must have been feeling after he had died. Show Friends and Heroes Episode 39: The Road Ahead as far as 12:27 mins when Macky shares his plan for rescuing the scrolls.

- What was the miracle in the Bible story?

Spend some time talking about the story together and ask the pupils the following questions:

- How did Cleopas and his friend eventually realise that it was Jesus who was with them?
- How did they feel?
- Why do you think Jesus went back to his friends after he had risen – why didn't he just go back to heaven? (He wanted to show them that he was alive so that they would know that he had been telling the truth and that they could trust him.)
- What would have happened if Jesus had chosen not to return to the disciples and show that he was alive?
- Would the pupils expect Christianity to survive as a religion?

(Altogether around 500 people, including the disciples, saw Jesus after his resurrection. If Jesus hadn't been resurrected and seen by so many people, Christianity wouldn't exist today.)

Make sure that the pupils understand that the resurrection is a key belief of Christianity. The resurrection means that Jesus conquered death – he died on the cross and then was raised from the dead. Explain that Christians believe that Jesus died for all the wrong things they have done so that they can have a relationship with God.

Remind the pupils that once Macky has told Portia this story, he is even more determined that he should find the scrolls – he wants other people to know about the stories of Jesus, in particular the story of the resurrection. He knows how important it is.

Using a flipchart/whiteboard, and contributions from the pupils, begin to create a "word bank" of words that would show how the Friends of Jesus might have felt when they knew that Jesus had risen from the dead, e.g., astounded, delighted, exhilarated.

Explain that today Christians too want to share the story of the resurrection with other people. Tell the pupils that they are going to do:-

Worksheet 39.1a

Write/draw a scroll as though they were one of the Friends of Jesus, retelling the amazing events of the resurrection.

OR

Worksheet 39.1b

Work in a small group to create a choral poem/song to tell the story of the resurrection.

Encourage pupils to use words from the word bank to help them.

Reflection / Personal search / Response:

Have a time of sharing the work the pupils have produced. How does it make them feel to hear about the resurrection? Ask the pupils at what time of year Christians celebrate the resurrection and talk about some of the symbols associated with Easter, e.g., the cross, eggs to symbolise new life, etc.

NB this was not originally a Christian symbol as Easter occurred at the same time as a pagan festival but Christians may think of eggs as a symbol of new life because of Jesus' death and resurrection.

If appropriate you may like to say a prayer, thanking God for Jesus' death on the cross.

Ask the pupils to predict how the episode will end.

- Will Macky manage to save the scrolls?

Assessment / reporting:

Can the pupils explain why the resurrection is so important for Christians?

Links to other subject areas:

Literacy - Stories with issues/dilemmas: Y4 Narrative, plays and scripts, Unit 4

Literacy – Poetry: Y3 Poetry, Unit 1 - Poems to perform; Y4 Poetry, Unit 2 - Exploring Form; Y5 Poetry, Unit 3 - Choral and Performance

Creative/other - RE – Easter story

Name:

Date:

Worksheet 39.1a

Imagine you are one of Jesus' friends. Use this empty scroll to write a diary entry or draw a picture to share what has happened and how you are feeling, now that you know that Jesus has risen from the dead. Make sure that other people will recognise how incredible this is – think carefully about the words you use. Remember: this scroll could be around for thousands of years!



Name:

Date:

Worksheet 39.1b

Working in small groups, compose a song or a choral poem to tell other people about the miracle of Jesus' resurrection.



You might like to use this chorus:

Jesus is risen.
He is risen from the dead.
He's defeated death.
And won the victory.

