

# 7 Exploring friendship

Based on Episode 7: Lost in Alexandria

## Learning objectives:

- To learn about friendship (inspired by faith)
- To consider what kind of friend we are to others

## RE Links:

- England:** 1b) *Ways of life and . . . how these stem from, and are closely connected with, beliefs and teachings.*  
2b) *Respond to the challenges of commitment both in their own lives and within religious traditions.*
- Isle of Man:** 3E) *What is the bible and why is it so important to Christians?*  
4Fii) *Parables of Jesus - The Good Samaritan.*  
5E) *Rules to live by - Friendship.*  
6Di) *Christian values - relationships.*
- Northern Ireland:** *The Revelation of God: God and the Bible*  
*Morality: Respect for each other*
- Scotland:** *Sacred writings, stories and key figures*  
*Moral values and attitudes*
- Wales:** *Religious stories*  
*The importance that religion places on personal relationships and concern for others*

## Stimulus material:

**Friends and Heroes DVD episode 7:** *Lost in Alexandria*

## Bible references for the main stories:

**Luke** 10:30-37

**Ruth** 1:6-22 and chapter 2

## Other resources required:

*Copies of Worksheet 7a and 7b, envelopes*

## Introduction:

*Remind the pupils that the stories told by Miriam and Macky are from the Bible.*

- 1) Which one is from the Old Testament part of the Bible? (the story of Ruth and Naomi).
- 2) Which one is from the New Testament part of the Bible? (the story of the Good Samaritan – a story Jesus told).
- 3) In pairs, ask the pupils to recap the two stories to each other.
- 4) What do the stories have in common?

*Draw out the idea that the two stories are based on the theme of friendship.*

## Activities:

- 1) What makes a good friend? What qualities and characteristics does a good friend have?

*Ask the pupils to work in small groups to write words and short phrases that describe a good friend around the outline of Macky on Worksheet 7a.*

*Feedback the ideas and draw out responses from the pupils encouraging them to phrase the responses positively, e.g. 'Someone who shares' rather than 'someone who's not selfish'*

- 2) Why would Jesus have wanted to teach people about being a good friend and helping others?

*As a class, agree the five most important qualities of a friend, voting if necessary.*

- 3) What motivated Ruth and the Good Samaritan to be such good friends?

*Draw out the idea that they were both motivated by their faith and their relationship with God to behave as they did. Explain that Christians find these two stories a useful example of how to behave as friends.*

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## Reflection / Personal search / Response:

*Ask the pupils to consider their friendships:*

- 1) What sort of a friend are they?
- 2) Are they someone who is kind, welcoming and prepared to go out of their way to help other people like Ruth and the Good Samaritan?
- 3) Do they sometimes find it difficult to be welcoming like Diana?
- 4) Do they ignore people in trouble like the Priest and the Pharisee?
- 5) How could they become a better friend?

*Pupils use worksheet 7b to record three different ways in which they could improve their friendships with others in the class and with their friends and family outside school. Ask the pupils to place their worksheet in an envelope, seal it and write their name on the front of it. After an agreed period of time, e.g. one or two weeks, pupils reopen the envelopes and consider the ways in which they were going to improve their friendship.*

- 1) How are they getting on?
- 2) Have they made the improvements they wanted to?

*Allow the pupils time for reflection and if appropriate, adjusting the targets they had set for themselves.*

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## Assessment / reporting:

*Can the pupils identify the features or characteristics that would make a good friend?*

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## Links to other subjects:

- 1) Characteristics and qualities – character studies.
- 2) Icarus – links to Myths work
- 3) Modern day children still in slavery making carpets – a true story from the Christian Aid website: <http://www.globalgang.org.uk/games/gamezone/megrajstory.html> and a game: <http://www.globalgang.org.uk/carpet/index.html>
- 4) England: PSHE – link to SEAL material – Getting on and falling out.

Name:

Date:

## Exploring Friendship 7a

Around Macky write words and phrases that describe a good friend.



Name:

Date:

## Exploring Friendship 7b

Think about your friendships and yourself as a friend.

- 1) What things could you do to improve your friendships?
- 2) How could you make yourself a better friend?



Draw or write three ideas below:

1

2

3