

Session 2

Crossing Divides

Key learning

Pupils explore how assumptions or prejudices divide us from others and learn how to challenge these by being curious about the story we don't know.



Before the session

You will need:

- Slides for this session, with sound
- A copy of the book *Black Dog* by Levi Pinfold
- Copies of hope clouds for children
- Pencils and coloured pencils
- A quiet space for reflection

Notes

Story

Be Curious (Community)



Children's literature

Introduce the key text and show children the cover of *Black Dog*.

Ask:

- What do you see?
- What do you think?
- What do you know?
- What do you want to know?

Space

Be Present (Embrace)



Children's literature

Read the story all the way through, asking questions as you go.

Suggested questions for discussion:

- Why are the family scared?
- What does it mean to hope?
- How is Hope (Small) different from her family?
- Can you think of a time when you felt scared?
- Why was the dog compared to a tyrannosaurus rex?

difference.

Discuss the size of the dinosaur and why this may feel scary to the children and the family.

Ask:

- Are there times that we might be afraid of things that we can see and that we can't see?

Gather responses from children as to why they may be afraid.

Discussion

Explore the concept of hope versus fear in more detail with the children.

Scenario: Imagine you want to learn to ride a bike, but you're so afraid of falling that you don't even want to try. How will you learn to ride if you never get on the bike?

Model different ways of choosing hope over fear and refer to Session 1 when you discussed hope as believing things can go right, more than believing things can go wrong.

This is also an opportunity for you to suggest other scenarios that are relevant to your pupils.

Sanctuary

Reimagine (Power)



Bible passage

"Be strong, and let your heart take courage."

Psalms 31:24 (ESV)

Explain that this means that we don't give up, even when things feel difficult or when we feel nervous.

difference.



Activity

Hope clouds

Give each child a template of a cloud and ask them to write or draw something they hope for.



Reflection

You may want to read this reflection aloud to your pupils.

Sometimes in life we can feel scared or frightened when things are new. Sometimes this can be when we see something that is different from what we are used to. But, if we are brave and show courage, we may be able to make our fear go away and find that the new activity, thing or person we get to know might not be scary



Important note: *Let pupils know that sometimes fear is helpful in keeping us safe, such as not putting our hand near the fire. But this session looks at when fear holds us back from things that are good for us to do. Remind your pupils that healthy fear is helpful..*



Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you for teaching us how to be brave and how to have hope when things feel difficult.

Teach us to try our best, and to show courage when we need it. May we all work hard treat others with kindness and not to be afraid of those of seem different from us.

We ask this in your name,

Amen.

End of session 2