

SONGS 4 ASSEMBLIES KS2 – ASSEMBLY SAMPLE

ASSEMBLY 2: Theme – Love For Your Neighbour

SONG: 'In Our School' (Vocal track 2, Backing track 12)

AIM: To show the children that we should offer love, care and help to everyone.

INTRO: Neighbour survey. Ask the children to estimate in their heads how many neighbours they have on their street. Then ask for a show of hands. 100+, 50-100, 10-50, less than 10, zero?

Then ask how many of those neighbours they actually know?

Then ask how many of those neighbours they're really good friends with.

From the show of hands you should be able to point out that it's clear that a lot of people don't know all their neighbours, aren't friends with their neighbours and some people might not have any neighbours at all.

Nowadays, people are much less likely to know and get on with their neighbours than they were in years gone by, which is a great shame.

In the bible, Jesus famously said that we should 'love our neighbours', but he wasn't just talking about the people on your street, he was saying that we should show love to everyone we meet.

STORY: *Here is a new version of a story Jesus told called 'The Parable of The Good Samaritan'. In the following story see if you can guess who the real neighbour was...*

The Kind Dragon

A long time ago in a land far away, a little girl called Lucy lived in a cosy, little cottage with her mother and father. Their beautiful home, which was miles away from the nearest village, was situated on the border of an exceptionally large forest.

Lucy's father was a woodcutter. He knew the forest well and he would often take Lucy and her mum on long walks through it. It often seemed to Lucy that every time, her father would take them somewhere brand new.

Sometimes it was to see the huge waterfall at the edge of the small crystal, clear lake at the north of the forest. Sometimes it was to see 'Echo Cave' where they would have fun shouting into it and counting how many times, they'd hear their own voice mysteriously speaking back to them. Once they had even gone to watch a family of otters that lived by the stream flowing all the way through this remarkable woodland.

Lucy was constantly intrigued by the forest and simply could not wait for the day when she would be old enough to explore it all by herself.

Eventually the day of her tenth birthday came. Her mother had made her a new dress and her father had carved her a jewellery box out of wood. Then Lucy's mother and father sat her down to explain to her that they had one more present to give her. But the present wasn't something she could open, see or touch, because it was the gift of being able to explore the forest on her own. Lucy nearly jumped through the roof with excitement; this was what she'd always wanted.

Lucy felt immensely proud to be out on her own as she walked through the beautiful forest the next morning. Her mother had given her a small picnic to take with her, and her father had told her repeatedly about the two main rules Lucy had to follow. Stay on the paths and do not go too far.

Then Lucy suddenly saw something amazing that made her gasp with excitement. It was a baby red squirrel. Lucy had seen lots of grey squirrels all over the forest, but she'd never seen a red one before! Her parents had told her that the forest used to be full of red squirrels, but that none had been seen in years. Then as quickly as the squirrel had appeared – it scurried away. Without thinking, Lucy left the path and started to run after it through the thick forest. She fought through bushes and jumped over mud patches watching the squirrel all the time. Then she saw the baby red squirrel jump into a hole in a tree. Lucy was delighted! She had found the red squirrel's home. Her parents would be so proud of her. The only problem was that Lucy suddenly realised she was lost! She started to go back the way she thought she'd come, but she didn't recognise any of her surroundings and she couldn't see the path.

Minutes passed, then hours and still Lucy was lost, until at long last Lucy saw the path up ahead. She started to run towards it.

But then a terrible thing happened. In her excitement Lucy ran so fast that she didn't look properly to see where she was going. Lucy tripped over a branch and tumbled into a ditch right next to the path.

Lucy sat up slowly and painfully. She had cuts and bruises all over her. But worse still, when she tried to stand up she couldn't, her right leg was too sore! Perhaps she'd broken it! How would she get home?

Lucy started to cry. What would she do now? How could she get home? It was starting to get dark. She didn't want to be out on her own in the big dark forest at night.

After a little while Lucy heard some footsteps coming. "HELP!" she screamed, "PLEASE HELP ME!"

She peered through the trees and gasped when she saw who the person was. She just couldn't believe it. It was a clown!

He was doing a silly walk and was busy telling jokes to himself! Lucy could hear him muttering, "My dog's got no nose...how does he smell...terrible!"

As the clown got nearer, he heard Lucy crying and ran to see what the problem was.

"I've had an accident, I can't walk and I'm a long way from home" sobbed Lucy, "Can you please help me?"

"Oh dear, oh dear, oh dear my dear," said the clown. "That is a bit of a jam pickle!" You see, I can't help you because I'm late for the circus. It's my first day, I've learnt all my jokes listen, Knock knock..."

"Er...who's there?" said Lucy.

"Boo!" said the clown.

"Boo who!" said Lucy.

"No need to cry, it's only a joke!" laughed the clown. But Lucy was crying even more now. "Anyway, must run. Hope you're better soon. Bye!" And with that the clown had gone!!!

Lucy cried even more. It was very rare for Lucy or her parents to ever meet anyone else in the forest, so Lucy felt like her only chance of getting home had just gone. But suddenly she heard footsteps again coming from the other direction. When Lucy looked, she had to blink twice and rub her eyes! It was another clown. But this one wasn't doing silly walks or telling jokes. This one was crying!

"Excuse me Mr. Clown, can you help me," said Lucy hopefully, "I've had an accident and I'm a long way from home, can you..." But before Lucy could say any more, the clown started crying even louder!

"I can't help you," moaned the clown, "I'm too upset to help anyone. I've lost my job at the circus you see; they've got a new clown. Now I just want to go home to feel sorry for myself. Goodbye." And before Lucy could say anything, the clown was gone.

Now Lucy really was in trouble. The sun had nearly set, she felt cold, hungry, thirsty and sore; and she didn't feel like she had any energy left in her body to even do any more crying. Poor Lucy! What was she going to do? As she lay still, sobbing gently and watching the sun setting over the tall trees, she started hearing a strange sound. It sounded like a bird flapping its wings, but it sounded like a very, very big bird.

Then down swooped a mighty dragon who landed with a thud in front of Lucy. Lucy screamed.

"Please don't eat me Mr. Dragon," cried Lucy, "Please I'm only small and I won't taste very nice!"

"Why on earth would I want to eat you?" said the dragon, "I'm a vegetarian! Anyway, even if I do eat meat it gives me wind and the wind blows out the fire in my nostrils, so no, I won't eat you I promise. I only stopped because I thought you looked like you needed some help."

Lucy cried again, but this time she was crying for joy. "Oh yes please," she said, "You see I was out walking on my own when I saw a squirrel, but I got lost and I was running to catch him but then I fell into this ditch and now I can't walk and I'm sore, tired and hungry... and... and... I want my mummy!"

"There, there!" said the kind dragon, "It's okay. We'll soon have you home. Now are your arms alright?"

"Err, I think so!" replied Lucy.

"Good!" said the friendly dragon, "Then you can hold onto my tail while I fly you home."

Lucy held tight as the dragon lifted off. They soon rose high into the sky. From here the forest looked like a small bush. Lucy was having the time of her life and her heart leapt for joy when she realised she could see where her house was. She told the dragon and he swooped down and landed right outside Lucy's house.

Lucy's mum and dad ran out to meet her. Lucy told them all that had happened. They said thank you to the dragon, and then Lucy, her mum, her dad, the dragon (and the squirrel) lived happily ever after.

SUMMARY: *Lucy did not have any neighbours living next door to her, but the dragon was still her neighbour because he took the time to show love, help and kindness towards Lucy. We need to follow the dragon's example, not the clown's examples. We should never be too busy or too upset to stop to help other people.*

PRAYER: *Dear God,
We pray that love for one another will be at the foundation of our school; we pray that kindness, peace, patience and gentleness will be the four walls built on top of it and we pray that friendship will be the roof, which covers us all. Help us to take this love in our hearts wherever we may go in this world. Help us to be the neighbour of everyone we meet.
Amen.*