

CIRCLE TIME: YEAR 3/4

Virtue 2 (Spring): Love of Neighbour:

I know that loving my neighbour means loving EVERYONE.

I show my compassion when I am patient, understanding and loving to my neighbour.

PSHCE:

Play an active role as members of society.

Knowledge:

To know that we can show love and compassion to our neighbours.

Skills:

Express their feelings and consider the feelings of others.

Attitudes:

The true definition of love is to sacrifice for the good of others. To truly love God is to love what he loves; to love God is to love his children too. God has given us our neighbour as a means for us to show our love for him.

Circle Time Rules:

We listen to each other.

We do not say or do anything that would hurt another person. We signal when we want to say something.

We may say pass.

If a game involves touch, we may sit and watch before making a decision to join in.

Skills - Thinking, Looking, Listening, Speaking, Concentrating:

Throughout Circle Time it is vital that teachers praise children for using the above skills.

Step 1. Game

In a larger space, such as the playground or hall, stand in a circle. Children pass a ball around the circle, saying the name of the person beside them, their neighbour, as they pass them the ball. Repeat again, but this time invite the children to say something they like or to pay a compliment to their neighbour as they pass them the ball. How did this make us feel?

Step 2. Round

Jesus asked us to be good neighbours and to love our neighbour as ourselves. Jesus tried to show us how to do this. Can we think of any examples of times when Jesus was a good neighbour, showed compassion to others? What about any parables Jesus told us with a similar message? The cross reminds us that Jesus died for us. Pass a holding cross (or similar) around the circle and invite the children to share a way in which they will try to follow Jesus' example and show compassion for their neighbours.

Trigger statement:

I try to show compassion when...

Step 3. Open Forum

Show the extract of scripture below:

Jesus answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and the most important commandment. The second most important commandment is like it: 'Love your neighbour as you love yourself.' The whole Law of Moses and the teachings of the prophets depend on these two commandments."
(Matthew 22: 37-40)

Jesus asked us to love our neighbour as we love ourselves. Is it always easy to do this? What can make this difficult?

Children discuss in groups and then feedback ideas to the class.

Step 4. Celebration

Look at the 'Love Your Neighbour' charity webpage. Watch the video to find out about their mission to 'transform the nation together'. How can we help to transform our community by showing love for our neighbours?

Each child is given a paper home template and invited to write an idea of something they might do to show love and compassion for their neighbours.

Add the homes to your RE display or prayer table.

Step 5. Ending Ritual

Look at how the 'Love Your Neighbour' charity prioritise the 3 Cs – crisis, cause and care.

How could we do the same in our school and parish community?

Ask them to quietly reflect on this while playing 'All You Need is Love' (or another suitable song).