

SIMPLICITY CIRCLE TIME: EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE

Virtue 6 (Spring 1): Simplicity:

Simplicity means I am thankful. I use only what I need. I know simple things can make me happy. Living simply gives me time to think and care for God's Creation

Knowledge:

Understanding that living simply makes the world a better place e.g. thinking of others before yourself, finding pleasure in nature, giving your time to others.

Understand that we are stewards of this world – enjoying and looking after God's World

Knowing what we need can be different to what we want

Skills:

Looking carefully at the world and finding joy.

Attitudes:

Respect other people's needs, feelings and opinions.

Be mindful of the planet as a living thing that needs look after

Statements for Assessment:

I know that the world is full of amazing and wonderful things.

I know that I must develop an effective, caring relationship with the planet.

I am able to see things from different points of view.

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

Living Legends

(This game provides a positive focus for each child as part of the whole.)

Each child chooses an alliterative adjective to preface their name. Explain that the description should be positive; for example, friendly Fiona, kind Karl, marvellous Mary, wonderful Wayne. Ask for volunteers to begin the game, so that the more confident children show the others what to do. Each child is then asked to introduce themselves with a symbolic gesture. For example, joyful John might

open his arms and jump with joy. The other children say the child's name in the same tone of voice and copy their gesture.

(Make sure all children are able to think of a suitable word; if they are stuck ask the other children for suggestions.)

[Step 2. Round

I was alone in the classroom the other day and began to stare out of the window. After looking outside for a short time I was amazed at all the beautiful and wonderful things that were there. I don't usually take very much notice of what is around me because I'm busy doing things. What do you think I saw that was so amazing that I usually take for granted?

Trigger statement:

I think you saw.....It is amazing because.....

Step 3. Open Forum

Puppet says s/he was listening to sounds all around the other day. S/He was surprised at how many sounds he could hear that he didn't usually take any notice of or listen very carefully to. I wonder what sounds we can hear in the world around us if we listen very carefully now?

Children respond

Step 4. Celebration

Let's give a silent cheer for noticing so many beautiful and wonderful things in the world around us.

Step 5. Ending Ritual

I can sing a Rainbow