

Lesson Plans (P4 – P7/S1)

Overall Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding

- Describe how Humanism is a philosophy.
- Explain why Humanists do not believe in god.
- Discuss how Humanists have views on how to live a good and moral life.
- Identify the importance of being tolerant towards all beliefs.

Skills and Attitudes

- Research cultures and traditions.
- Report on findings through presentation and role play.
- Develop the concept of listening to opinions and being able to reasonably discuss their own.

Success Criteria

Involvement in class discussions, role plays
Posters,
Job Advert for Best Friend
Ideas for Commemorative Book for a new born baby, Mind Maps
The Christmas tree Story
Research work and presentations to the class at the teacher's discretion.

These lessons can be as long or as short as required at the teacher's discretion and used as a stand alone series of lessons or can be dipped into as part of citizenship, PSHE or RME.

Development of Theme	Learning Activities	Outcomes	Resources
<p>Lesson 1</p> <p>Believing Different Things Explains the philosophy of Humanism and how it fits in with society and the community.</p>	<p>Read and discuss the chapter on believing different things</p> <p>Research modern symbols used by either religions or charities.</p> <p>Group discussion on the five most important things in life. Group presentation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the importance of tolerance. • Describe what Humanists believe. • Explain new terms – atheist, agnostic, philosophy • Discuss the importance of symbolism. • Create a reasonable list and be able to justify the answers. 	<p>Chapter 1 – Believing In Different Things.</p> <p>internet, charitable and religious literature</p>

Development of Theme	Learning Activities	Outcomes	Resources
<p>Lesson 2</p> <p>Big Questions Developing the idea of the importance of asking questions and thinking about issues that relate to mankind.</p>	<p>Consider questions that have been asked by mankind in the past and the questions that we still consider today. Consider and discuss why rules and laws are important. (this could include class, school rules, rules at leisure centres etc.)</p> <p>Consider the five scenarios listed. (Each group could be given a scenario to consider)</p> <p>Read and discuss 'The biggest question of all'.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain which natural events used to cause our ancestors concern. • Identify reasons why rules and laws are important to society. • Construct an argument to justify a point of view. • Consider why some answers are easier than others. • Identify that different cultures have different ways of answering this question. • Describe what Humanists think. 	<p>Chapter 2 – Big Questions</p> <p>Flip chart and pens</p>

Development of Theme	Learning Activities	Outcomes	Resources
<p>Lesson 3</p> <p>The Golden Rule Understanding that most societies and religions have a 'golden rule.'</p>	<p>Discuss different examples from different faiths. (Additional research could be carried out at this stage.)</p> <p>In groups develop some other ideas which would make good slogans for the golden rule today. (Discussion on class rules or the golden rules used in school will help children relate to this.)</p> <p>Design a poster, illustrating their own version of the Golden Rule.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognise that different faiths have different versions of the golden rule. • Create and illustrate the golden rule. 	<p>Paper and coloured pens</p> <p>Internet for any research</p>

Development of Theme	Learning Activities	Outcomes	Resources
<p>Lesson 5</p> <p>Celebrating Life Describes how Humanists have ceremonies to celebrate the important events in life.</p> <p>(This lesson could also be broken down into smaller sections or discussed as part of another topic.)</p>	<p>Establish which types of ceremonies the children have already attended (e.g. christenings, bar mitzvahs, naming ceremonies, weddings, 21st birthdays etc.) Discuss the common themes such as music, cards, presents, nice clothes, wishes, food etc.</p> <p>(Describe how Humanists celebrate these events.)</p> <p>Create a mind map to plan a friend's birthday party, considering common themes.</p> <p>Create a class commemorative book for a new baby with hopes and wishes for the baby's future.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognise that all cultures share common themes for celebrating the important events in life. • Discuss things that you enjoy at celebrations. • Explain that Humanists do not use places of worship to celebrate their important ceremonies. • Consider the importance of a new life coming into a family. 	<p>Chapter 5 – Celebrating Life</p> <p>Exemplar Mind Map</p> <p>Paper and coloured pens</p>

Development of Theme	Learning Activities	Outcomes	Resources
<p>Lesson 6</p> <p>Festivals and Traditions Understanding the importance of festivals and traditions. Recognising that there are historical reasons for many traditions and that these can change over time.</p> <p>(Once again these lessons can be used to fit in with other areas of the curriculum, particularly at certain times of the year.)</p>	<p>Discuss why so many cultures celebrate winter and spring festivals. Explain how Humanists enjoy the importance of tradition and culture, regardless of faith.</p> <p>Discuss that every family often has its own traditions. Explore what individual families do within the class.</p> <p>Groups can research one of the winter or spring festivals suggested. (This can be linked with an RME topic.)</p> <p>Complete the Christmas Tree Story as a comprehension exercise.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognise that there are often ancient historic reasons for modern traditions. • Explain that many cultures enjoy festivals at certain times of year. • Describe what your own family does. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and report back to the class on a chosen topic. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain why the Christmas Tree has become a tradition. 	<p>Chapter 6 – Festivals and Traditions</p> <p>Internet and any other resources required for presenting back</p> <p>The Christmas Tree Story</p>