

# Making Jesus Real in Year 1

The theme of the year 1 program is being a Westie and is linked with the movie Finding Nemo. Each session begins with a prayer around a prayer focus with a song, a reading, quiet intentions, whatever suits your group.

This plan involves 4 sessions for the group approximately half a day each term. The students concentrate on positive body language with the distribution of books, the students say thanks, they might high five or thumbs up, etc.

## Session 1

The focus for this session is Welcoming

Review EAST and WEST posters and complete the WEST and EAST pages in their booklet.

Revise the Happy Chappy page, they may have seen it before. Read through the descriptors and explain any that may be unknown. Complete the activity at the bottom of the page where the students circle 4 things they would like to be and 3 that they are.

Do the same with the Nasty Pastie page and circle 5 things you don't want to be.

Students discuss with a partner how they welcome others and how others welcome them.

Brainstorm ideas on the whiteboard/projector, etc.

Point out, to have a welcome feeling in our school, we must welcome others and they will then welcome us. This means we all must PRACTISE welcoming behavior.

Welcoming Faces Ask students to close their eyes and imagine the friendliest person in the world is standing in front of them. What does their face look like?

In a group students can show each other their friendly face then take turns to say one thing that this friend would do for them.

Welcoming worksheet. Explain to the students that they can draw some of those ways to welcome others and the way they have been welcomed by others.

Ballgames and spy glasses. Divide into two groups and go outside for some activities. Allow the students the opportunity to be welcoming and make their own teams or pairs.

Group 1 - Tunnel Ball and Captain Ball in teams of approx.. 6-8 students

Group 2 - Spy glasses; in pairs look for the wonders God has hidden in nature by sharing a spy glass.

Movie: Finding Nemo; Discuss welcoming and including on page 3 of the booklet. Introduce the movie and tell the students they are going to look for welcoming characters and ask if they can identify who the welcoming characters are and who excludes others. Watch approx.

25 mins.

The students can draw the characters in the appropriate boxes in the worksheet.

Build a Bridge Discuss what we do when things go wrong in our lives. Talk about the negative thoughts or events that happen in our lives and what can happen if we dwell on them for too long. Does it make it better? Introduce the phrase "Build a Bridge and Move on" What does that mean?

Students then use 1 newspaper and only 7 pieces of masking tape to build a bridge. This should reinforce the positive thinking of moving on from bad things that can happen to us.

## Session 2

Begin with a prayer linked to the theme of welcoming and including others.

Review the Happy Chappy and Nasty Pastie characteristics on the first 2 pages of the booklet, ask students to revise the ones they circled and to think about the way they act.

Are they always Happy Chappys?

What stops them from being a Happy Chappy?

Use Nemo, Marlin and Dory as examples, and discuss whether they are Happy Chappys or Nasty Pasties.

Ask the students to brainstorm characters from cartoon TV shows or movies and list them as either Happy Chappys or Nasty Pasties.

In Term 1 the focus was on Welcoming, Term 2 the focus will be being an encouraging person.

Look at the word 'encourage' - courage gives strength to others to do better. Brainstorm words that people use to encourage you - like your parents, teachers, coaches, etc.

Read the book "In with Splash" or a similar book about encouragement. Select students to demonstrate a task such as hoola hoop or skipping, balancing a bean bag on their head. The other students call out encouraging words or phrases and then as a group discuss the type of words that help us to keep trying.

Students draw an illustration of themselves encouraging their friend.

Students discuss and then write words to encourage a friend in a race.

Role model some actions we would use to encourage others and then ask students to draw what they would do to encourage their friends receiving an award.

Set up a circuit of activities to practice encouraging words and actions. Eg chop sticks, tens towers, hula hoops, bean bag balance, skip offs.

Watch another section of Finding Nemo asking the students to look for the ways some of the characters encourage others.

## Session 3

Begin with a prayer linked to encouraging or teamwork.

Revise the ways we can encourage others. Using the movie Finding Nemo as an example.

Work through the page in the booklet of some more ways to encourage others. Students colour the pictures which show people encouraging others.

Introduce the term TAH Teamwork at Home, encourage discussion of the many ways students might help out at home. Work through the sheet on TAH with students drawing 2 other jobs they do to help at home.

Move on to the third part of being a WESTIE S for Sorry.

Read through the page in the workbook on Why should I say sorry? Giving examples of the different scenarios.

Ask the students to demonstrate these with role plays.

Emphasise the need for meaning it when you say sorry. On the next page in the booklet the students are invited to draw a picture of times when they have needed to say sorry to someone, both at home and at school.

Work through the next two pages about how you may feel when you are saying sorry, finishing off with a picture of how happy they can be after you say sorry.

Organise some outside games where the students are able to practice their WESTIE responses. Especially focusing on Encouraging and Sorry. Perhaps Ballgames, Soccer etc

Finish off with the third part of Finding Nemo.

## Session 4

Begin with an appropriate prayer.

Revise the concepts taught so far this year - Welcoming, Encouraging and Sorry - especially the idea that to say sorry like Jesus would you really have to mean it and try not to do it again. Also the feeling we have after we have said sorry.

Introduce the theme for this lesson Thanks and set the challenge to try to say 'Thanks' at least 10 times a day (once this is achieved it should increase to many more times than 10).

Encourage some children to demonstrate their manners through short role plays focusing on 'Thank you', 'Please' and 'Excuse me'.

Read through the "Thanks' page.

Work through the activity on the next page where it talks about the small things we can do to make people feel good when we say 'thanks'. Look at the person, smile at the person and speak nicely.

Talk about being thankful and gratitude. It would be appropriate to show the filmclip

Funny Thankful Kids at Thanksgiving - pilott

<http://youtu.be/39D6tIdKTUo>

Thankfulness Song <http://youtu.be/I9WCXp9VEA4>

This is very short but quite a good message.

Allow time for students to draw 4 things they would like to say 'thanks' for.

Talk about *God Moments* - where we see the greatness and goodness in others ask the students to report on the *God Moments* they see while on the playground.

Students could make a collage or poster of the things they should be thankful for.

Talk about the good qualities in our families and friends at school and students could either write them or draw illustrations of family and friends, Ask - Am I a person who looks for the bad in people and draws attention to it? Or Am I able to see the good in everyone?

[Type text]

Look at the final page of the booklet and remind students that we make Jesus real by letting Him work through us and seeing Jesus work through others. Students could decorate this page to reinforce the message.

Watch the final section of Finding Nemo - asking students to look for the ways the characters show they are WESTIES.