Lesson 1.1: Being brave
Based on Friends and Heroes DVD Episode 1: Long Journey
Bible story: Daniel in the Lions’ Den (Daniel 6:1-24a)

Learning objectives
- Explore the emotions associated with fear and courage
- Listen to and be able to retell the story of Daniel

RE links

England:
1a) explore a range of religious stories and sacred writings and talk about their meanings
2b) ask and respond imaginatively to puzzling questions, communicating their ideas

Isle of Man:
2c) Jesus the Storyteller: respond to the values and concerns of others. Understand the content and meaning of a story

Northern Ireland:
Morality: Respect for self

Scotland:
RME 1-09c: I am becoming aware that people’s beliefs and values affect their actions

Scotland Roman Catholic:
RERC 0-11a: I can share some Bible stories and I can explore how God speaks to us through these stories, I have reflected on how these stories can help me to live a Christian life

Wales:
express personal responses to personal, religious and moral questions

Cross curricular subject links

SEAL: Good to be me: Understanding my feelings
SEAL: Getting on and falling out: Seeing things from another point of view
Literacy: Y1: Speaking: Retell stories, ordering events using story language
Literacy: Y2: Speaking: Tell real and imagined stories using the conventions of familiar story language

Resources you will need
- A5 colour picture cards of the following characters – Macky, Samuel, Diana, Leah, Rebecca and Portia. (1 set for the teacher) (Printable Resource) You may wish to laminate these sheets. Please note that Portia will not be introduced until Lesson 2.1.
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- Worksheet 1.1a (one per pupil)
- Worksheet 1.1b (one per pupil)
- Music CD and associated resources (optional, see Story focus)
- Items for the Display – see below

Please note that worksheets can be printed in colour or black and white.

Display - Create a display in your classroom of the story characters, along with objects, books, puppets, pictures and the key questions connected with the Bible story focussed on in this lesson.

- A collection of ‘Daniel in the Lions’ Den’ storybooks
- Lion puppets and pictures
- Pieces of art interpreting the story
- Pictures of people being brave
- Faces that are afraid

Lesson outline

Introduce characters.
Discussion using key questions.
Watch first part of Episode 1.
Récap story of Daniel.
Story focus using Worksheet 1.1a.
Conclusion using Worksheet 1.1b.

First step

Before watching the programme, use the character picture cards and introduce the pupils to the main characters they will meet in the episode.

Character biographies:

Macky – he’s bright, funny and courageous. He lives with his dad and mum, Samuel and Diana, in Alexandria, a city in Egypt. He gets involved in adventures helping the Friends of Jesus who the Romans are trying to harm.
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**Key questions** - Use these questions to encourage pupils to connect their own experiences with the events and characters in the programme. Include the key questions on your display.

Ask the pupils to think about a time when they felt afraid. Use the following questions to draw out that when we are afraid we have to be brave.

- Can you describe how it felt to be afraid?
- Have you ever helped someone who was afraid? When? Why?
- Have you ever felt afraid? When? Why?
- Who or what helped you to stop feeling afraid?

**Story focus and Activity**

*Bible reference: Daniel 6:1-24a*

*Daniel in the Lions’ Den*

Watch Episode 1 until 13.05 mins. Stop when Diana asks the girls to join the family meal.

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**Samuel** – is Macky’s father, and he is a silversmith. He’s a warm, friendly and wise man. He is Jewish but has joined the Friends of Jesus.

**Diana** – is a dressmaker and always looks smart. Diana loves her family and helps the Friends of Jesus too.

**Leah** – is 5 years old and the sister of Rebecca. She’s funny and bright but gets into trouble sometimes! Her father is Daniel and he’s trying to help the Friends of Jesus.

**Rebecca** – is 8 years old and Leah’s older sister and Daniel is her father too. Leah and Rebecca leave their father behind in a place called Galilee and travel to Alexandria to live with Macky’s family where they will be safe.
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Ask the children to identify who was afraid and then overcame their fear. Who was brave?

Focus on the Bible story, Daniel in the Lions’ Den. Briefly recap the story and then using Worksheet 1.1a, ask the pupils to draw and/or write about what they thought was the most important part of the story of Daniel.

Now ask the pupils what we can learn from Daniel about being brave. Using the second part of Worksheet 1.1a, ask them to draw and/or write about a time when they have been brave.

If you have time, give the pupils an opportunity to share their drawings, thoughts and ideas in pairs/groups/as a class.

We have a song about Daniel in the Lions’ Den called ‘Daniel’. You can add music and song activities to your lesson using our music CD, What about Love?: Bible songs based on Friends and Heroes Series 1. Click here to learn more: www.friendsandheroes.com/songtime

To conclude...

Use the Friends and Heroes character cards to remind the pupils of their names and then ask the pupils what questions they would like to ask the characters about the events in the story.

These questions could be recorded on a whiteboard or older pupils can record their questions on Worksheet 1.1b. Once the children have recorded their questions, you may wish to follow this with a class discussion where you try to answer some of the questions.
I think the most important part of the story is...

Because...

This is me being brave...
Worksheet 1.1b

What questions would you like to ask the characters in the story?

[Blank lines for questions]