

Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day

PSHE and Citizenship

National curriculum learning objectives

KS1 Citizenship Point 5:

- take part in discussions (for example, talking about topics of school, local, national, European, Commonwealth and global concern, such as 'where our food and raw materials for industry come from')

KS2 Citizenship:

- to research, discuss and debate topical issues, problems and events
- that their actions affect themselves and others, to care about other people's feelings and to try to see things from their points of view
- to think about the lives of people living in other places and times, and people with different values and customs

Across all years PSHE guidance:

- that mental wellbeing is a normal part of daily life, in the same way as physical health
- that there is a normal range of emotions (e.g. happiness, sadness, anger, fear, surprise, nervousness) and scale of emotions that all humans experience in relation to different experiences and situations
- how to recognise and talk about their emotions, including having a varied vocabulary of words to use when talking about their own and others' feelings

Skills development

- Sharing thoughts and opinions
- Reflecting on the challenges faced by children living in a different environment from them
- Recognising the benefits of support networks such as therapy and therapy dogs

Resources needed

- PowerPoint presentation
- Parker vs Pet Dogs: What makes Parker so special? activity sheet
- Design a Dog Jumper and Human Jumper activity sheet
- Fill up Viktoriya and Parker's Christmas stockings activity sheet
- Glue and scissors
- Craft materials for jumper designs - felt tips, tissue paper, sequins
- Home learning activities (optional)

Key vocabulary

Ukraine, war, conflict, therapy dog, golden retriever, emotions, feelings, charity, support, difference, empathy

Prior learning

This lesson could build on any prior knowledge children have of support dogs and how different children benefit from them. The lesson could also build on children's awareness of global conflict in an age-appropriate way, particularly in reference to the ongoing conflict in Ukraine and how this affects the day-to-day lives of children.

Special considerations

Be mindful of any children in the class with refugee status or children who may have experienced difficulties that will be covered in this lesson. Consider any children who access therapy or who have experienced the company of a therapy dog. They may wish to speak about this from personal experience or may not wish to mention it or have it disclosed to others.

Time	Teacher Activity	Time
10 Mins	Share PowerPoint slides that explore Viktoriya and her story as well as the fantastic efforts of Parker the dog. Ensure you encourage the children to think about what makes Parker different from a dog children might have as a pet, and why Save the Children introduced Viktoriya to Parker.	Help explain the role of a therapy dog and who might benefit from spending time with one.
10 Mins	Encourage children to talk in pairs about the difference between a typical pet dog and Parker. Why is Parker special? Why does Viktoriya need Parker? Following a discussion with the children, ask them to complete the Parker vs Pet Dogs: What makes Parker so special? activity sheet.	KS1 - children can draw Parker and a pet dog and verbally compare. KS2 - children could label their drawings of the two dogs with statements about what makes them different.

<p>10 mins</p>	<p>Move on to the slides that share why Save the Children hold Christmas Jumper Day - to raise money to help children like Viktoriya. If appropriate, you may wish to look at Save the Children's website with the class at this point and learn more about the charity and its impact.</p> <p>Did you know that dogs love Christmas too?</p> <p>Next, we're going to work on lots of activities to make Parker and Viktoriya's Christmas a fun one!</p>	<p>Help explain the role of a therapy dog and who might benefit from spending time with one.</p>
<p>30 mins</p>	<p>Introduce a selection of activities related to Christmas and Parker that children can get involved in. See activity sheets for different options: Design a Dog Jumper and Human Jumper and Fill up Viktoriya and Parker's Christmas Stockings!</p> <p>Once children have come to the end of the activity, gather them back together to share their designs and talk about what made them choose particular items for Viktoriya and Parker or particular design features for their matching jumpers. This is a great opportunity to assess how well the children have met the lesson's learning objectives.</p> <p>Some key questions to use to assess this include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do you think your life is different from Viktoriya's life? • How do you think Viktoriya felt before she met Parker, and after? • Is there a time that a special animal or person made you feel better when you were sad? • Do you think this is the same as Viktoriya's time with Parker? 	<p>Younger children can draw a comparison of a dog and a human jumper, while older children could create a full design and technology activity here, thinking carefully about alterations between a human and dog jumper/where to put the patterns to show off the design, etc.</p> <p>Fill up Parker and Viktoriya's Christmas Sstockings! has two variations: a cut-and-stick activity for younger children and a blank fill-in activity for older children. You could offer both and let children decide what they prefer, or select the option you feel best suits your cohort.</p>
<p>5 mins</p>	<p>Refer to the questions on the 'What have we learned today?' slide to discuss what has been learnt in the lesson and take the opportunity to assess children's understanding and empathy.</p>	<p>Support children where necessary to understand what empathy means.</p>

Lesson reflections / next steps / teacher notes

Assessment opportunities

- Can pupils identify why Viktoriya needs Parker?
- Can pupils discuss the difference between a pet dog and a therapy dog?
- Can pupils discuss why children like Viktoriya need support from Save the Children and how the charity helps children in different ways?
- Are children able to demonstrate empathy in understanding what life might be like for someone else?

Suggestions for future learning

- You might do more research into the different types of therapy and support dogs children benefit from.
- You could learn about the other ways Save the Children helps kids like Viktoriya by reading stories of other children on their website.
- Discover how Save the Children has helped children in Ukraine.

Home learning opportunities

- The home learning activity is a maze activity (more suited to KS1). Children help Parker and Viktoriya find their way to the big Christmas tree in their local park.
- The word search activity (more suited to KS2) contains items that they might have placed in Parker and Viktoriya's Christmas stockings. Children could also create their own word search about Christmas - or even all about Save the Children - using the blank word search template.