

Art

Note: any activities involving photographing pupils must have parental permission.

Introduction

Talk about parting and saying goodbye. This is a painting of a goodbye.

Core material

Select from the following activities:

Explore the painting *Naomi entreating Ruth and Orpah to return to the land of Moab* by William Blake

1. Use the presentation *Ruth in Art*.

Show William Blake's painting on slide 2.

- Ask pupils to tell you what they see. What do they think is happening?
- How do they think the people feel? How do you know what they are feeling?
- William Blake painted this scene because he had read a story in the Bible. Tell the story of Ruth using the presentation *The story of Ruth*. Listen to the audio or use *The story of Ruth* for a commentary. This can be also be printed as handouts to create a picture story.
- Which of the pictures on the handout shows the same scene in the painting?
- How does this picture differ from the painting? What is the same?



Naomi entreating Ruth and Orpah to return to the land of Moab by William Blake

- What do the painting and the story tell us about how Ruth and Naomi thought about each other?
- In helping Naomi what did Ruth have to do? (Go to a strange country, work in the fields.)

2. The words behind the painting/pictures

- Show the words that lay behind William Blake's painting on slide 6-7.

Naomi said, 'Turn again, my daughter . . . go your way.' And they lifted up their voice, and wept again: and Orpah kissed her mother in law; but Ruth clave unto her. Ruth 1:8, 14 (King James Version)

*Kiss is a goodbye kiss.

*Clave is an old word meaning 'clung' or 'held onto.'

- Read the quotation from the King James Bible to the pupils and see how much they can understand. Ask them to listen for unusual words and explain any old words. Now look at the words in modern English.
- How has William Blake really captured this part of the Bible in his painting? Look for crying and clinging.
- Recreate the painting as a tableau and photograph it. Print it and ask pupils to add their own comments in bubbles around the photograph.



The Finding of the Saviour in the Temple
by William Holman Hunt

The Finding of the Saviour in the Temple by William Holman Hunt

Introduction

Discuss being lost and then found again. Talk about what to do if lost.

1. Explore the painting

Use the presentation *The Finding of the Saviour in the Temple*.

Use some of the questions that follow and draw on as much of the teacher notes as is applicable.

- What can you see?
- What is happening?
- Is this picture part of a story?
- What do you think the story might be?
- Look at the people. How are they feeling?

3. Create their own pictures

Ask pupils to choose a different moment from the story that they think is important and draw a picture of that moment or create a tableau and take a photograph.

Reflection

Ask pupils to think of times when they have helped friends, even if that has not been easy. Think of times others have helped them.

Resources

Other paintings of Ruth are in the presentation if you want to use them.

www.bible-art.info/Ruth.htm Scroll down for a range of paintings of Ruth and Naomi. See also www.textweek.com/art/ruth.htm

- I wonder what people are saying to each other?
- What do you think they are thinking?
- If we were there and could touch things, what would they feel like?
- If we were there and could hear things, what noises might we hear?
- Who is important in this painting? How do you know?
- Who are people looking at?
- What might happen next?

2. The words behind the painting

Listen to the story from the Bible being read using the download *The Finding of the Saviour in the Temple*. See the teacher notes for an explanation of this incident. Decide which moment from the story this painting depicts.

3. Jigsaw

Print the painting onto light card and make a simple jigsaw. Which piece do pupils think is the most important?

4. Speech

Add speech bubbles to a copy of the painting. Teachers can write pupils' suggestions for younger pupils.

Reflection

The teachers in this painting are surprised at the understanding of a young boy. Do we listen to those who are younger or do we close our ears because they are younger than us?



Jesus preaching in the Temple
by William Brassey Hole