

The Snowdrop



1. As the pupils enter

Have the webpage open:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/assemblies-ks1-ks2-new-year-the-snowdrop-new-beginnings/z8x3n9q>

Display the image of snowdrops in the snow (see 'Key links'):

http://teach.files.bbci.co.uk/schoolradio/assemblies/images/new_year_the_snowdrop.jpg

2. Introduction

Display the image of snowdrops. Ask the children:

Have you seen flowers like this before? Where?

Does anyone know what they are called? [Establish that these are snowdrops and they come out very early in the New Year - a sign that spring is coming.]

Ask the children to count the petals of the flowers shown in the image.

Ask: *What words would you use to describe the flowers? Do you know the names of any other flowers that come in spring? [Guide the children towards descriptions and names of daffodils, hyacinths, crocuses, bluebells, etc.]*

Ask the children to watch out for these flowers in the days to come.

Remind the children: *It is not spring yet, it's still winter. But once we see the first snowdrops, it's a sign spring is on the way. Here's a story about the very first snowdrop of all...*

Now play the video.

3. Play the video

Play the video. The duration is 4' 32" and the final words: '...first sign of spring.'

4 & 5. Time to talk

Ask: *Why do you think the Snowdrop wanted to reach up into the world? How do you think the Snowdrop felt when she was in her bulb under the ground?*

How do you think she felt when she was growing? How do you think she felt when the storm came? How do you think she felt the next day?

The children could act out the Snowdrop's journey in life. If there is enough space they could curl up tight and then gradually grow up, bursting through the earth, etc.

Ask: *What can we learn from the Snowdrop's story? What is her message to all of us?*

Looking ahead to the New Year, ask the children: *What good things do you want to do with your life? Tell them: At this time of year people make resolutions, promises to themselves about the good things they want to do. Like the Snowdrop, decide in your head on one good thing that you would like to do this year.*

Play video



6. Time to sing

An opportunity for you to sing your chosen song.

7. Opportunity to reflect

'The snowdrop is a sign of hope and new beginnings and a promise of good things to come...

Think to yourself about the good things we can all do in this hopeful New Year...

Think how you can be like a snowdrop in your heart...and mind.'

8. Opportunity for prayer

Use your standard form of address ('Dear God', 'Lord Jesus', etc) and:

'We thank you for the snowdrop, a sign of hope and new beginnings and a promise of good things to come.

Help us, too, to be snowdrops in our hearts and minds.

Help us to be signs of hope and good things in the bright New Year ahead. Amen.'