

# COURAGE

## 1. As pupils enter

Play some video footage of lions as children enter and display some examples of artwork showing Daniel in the Lions' Den.

## 2. Introduction

Ask for volunteers to come to the front to describe what they can see in the pictures. Younger pupils could be prompted to continue the sentence 'I wonder...' Explain that the man you can see in the paintings is called Daniel. Ask whether Daniel looks scared of the lions? How would you describe Daniel's expression? What is courage and where do you get it from? How would you feel if you were the person in the picture surrounded by lions? Explain that everyone will now watch a short video about Daniel and how he came to be surrounded by lions.

## 3. Play the video

The duration is 3' 46". Final words: 'See you again soon, bye! Bye!.'

## 4. After the video - Time to talk

Lead a discussion about the story by asking some or all of the following:

- A child comments on how superheroes have courage inside them. Who are your everyday superheroes who don't wear capes? Who would you award a 'Medal of Courage' to?
- Why were the servants jealous of Daniel and what did they do? (They were jealous of his relationship with King Darius and how he trusted Daniel. They tricked the King into making a new law which they knew Daniel wouldn't be able to obey.)
- Why do you think Daniel continued praying to God knowing it was against the new law? (Daniel believed in God, so he continued to practise his religious beliefs in doing so he is showing that he trusted God.)
- Was it right for Daniel to break a law? (Explain that Daniel wasn't doing anyone any harm and that his faith meant that he was unable to obey the new law.)
- Is there a time when you have shown great courage? (Ask children to volunteer their experiences.) Did you have those wobbly / nervous tummy feelings? What did you do to overcome them?
- Who do you know who has shown great courage?

## 5. Opportunity to sing

An opportunity to sing your chosen song.



## 6. Opportunity to reflect

*Think about a time when you have shown courage.*

*What was it that you were worried about? What difficulty did you have to overcome?*

*What small steps did you take?*

*Think and be thankful for those who helped you during this time.*

*Now think about those who are 'Superheroes without capes' in your own lives. How do they inspire you? How do they show courage?*

*How can you show courage and make the world a better place for those nearby and those far away?*

## 7. Opportunity for prayer

Begin with your usual form of address ('Dear God', 'Let us pray', etc) and:

*Thank you for the story of Daniel teaching us about courage, faith and prayer.*

*There are times in our lives when it is hard to do the right thing.*

*Help us to show courage and to choose the right path when we have difficult decisions to make.*

*Amen.*