

# ENCOURAGEMENT

## 1. As pupils enter

Play your chosen music and display a few images of crowds holding banners to encourage a sportsperson.

## 2. Introduction

Show the children the images of supporters' banners. How can you tell they are supporting the athlete or team?

Explain that many people support athletes or teams from their favourite sports. What words would you say to your favourite sports person to encourage them?

Today's story is about offering encouragement - so let's find out who needs encouragement in the video...

## 3. Play the video

The duration is 4' 24". The final words are: 'See you again soon. Bye!'

## 4. After the video - Time to talk

You could begin by asking some questions about the story to consolidate pupils' recall of the events:

- At the beginning of the story what do the frog and the toad want to do? (Race to the top of the tower)
- What do the other animals think about their plan? (They don't think it's a good idea and they don't offer any encouragement)
- How does the toad encourage herself? (She sings an encouraging song to herself)
- Why does the frog begin to climb again after he has given up? (He is encouraged by the toad)
- How did they feel when they reached the top?

Then lead a discussion about being encouraging by asking the following:

- What words are encouraging? How do your friends encourage you at school?
- When do people sometimes find it hard to be encouraging?
- Why is it important to offer encouragement?

## 5. Opportunity to sing

An opportunity to sing your chosen song.



## 6. Opportunity to reflect

*Let's think about some of the times when we need encouragement...*

*There are times when it can seem difficult to do what we want to do...to achieve what we want to achieve... Think about something you could say to yourself - in your head - that would help you to feel encouraged... Do you know someone who needs support and encouragement..?*

*What words could you say to that person - to encourage them and help them to grow in confidence..? How will you encourage yourself and others today..?*

## 7. Opportunity for prayer

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

*Thank you for stories that help us to think about encouragement.*

*Help us to find the right words when others need encouragement.*

*Help us to be grateful for those who give us strength through their encouragement.*

*Amen.*