

HARD WORK

1. As pupils enter

Arrange for a child who has instrumental lessons to play a piece as pupils enter. Otherwise play your chosen music and display the image 'Hard Work' and / or a collection of instruments.

2. Introduction

Ask the assembly if anyone has heard of Aesop. Establish that Aesop lived a long time ago in Ancient Greece and that we remember him for some stories called *Aesop's Fables*.

Ask the assembly if anyone knows what a fable is. Establish that a fable is a short story which explains a moral - or 'lesson'. Ask pupils as they watch the video to think about what the moral or lesson of the story might be.

3. Play the video

The duration is 3' 48". The final words are: 'See you soon. Bye!'

4. After the video - Time to talk

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

- What does 'hard work' mean? (Something which you can't do easily; so you need to keep working at it; something you can't do straight away; something you need to improve; takes time to develop; show resilience when it goes wrong; need to show determination.)
- How do you know that you have worked hard at something? (End result; goals met; showed and helped others; kept trying when it was difficult; took on advice; one step at a time.)
- Who plays an instrument? Who helps you to develop your skills?
- What do you think the farmer meant in his message that the children would 'find treasure in the land'?
- How do you think the farmer was a role model for his children? (He worked hard; he cared for them; he didn't give up; he left them with a legacy to continue his work.)
- What do you think the 'moral' or 'lesson' of the story is?

5. Opportunity to sing

An opportunity to sing your chosen song.

Video page



6. Opportunity to reflect

*Think of a personal goal. What was it that you wanted to achieve?
What steps have you already taken to achieving that goal?
Have you achieved it yet or are you still working at it?
Who has helped you so far to achieve your goal?
How could you work a little harder to get closer to that goal?
Now let us think of others who work hard for us. Take a moment to be grateful for the work that others do to help us in our homes, at school, with our hobbies and sporting activities, looking after our health and those who work hard in the fields, just like the farmer, who provide our food.*

7. Opportunity for prayer

*Dear God,
Thank you for all those who work hard for us to make our lives better.
Help us to be ready to learn and to work hard to achieve our goals.
And when we are finding things tough, help us to ask others for help so that we can try again.
Amen*