



TERM 2 /YEAR 1 /WEEK 1
CELEBRATING SONGS

These are examples of Biblical songs of praise offered in thanksgiving for God's help and goodness and graciousness.

SEAL link - Good to be me

Values link - Joy

GATHER	ENGAGE	RESPOND	SEND
<p>Use different sorts of songs as pupils gather. Display questions about the songs for pupils to think about</p> <p><i>Bidding</i> O sing unto the Lord a new song;</p> <p><i>Response for He has done marvellous things</i></p>	<p>THE SONG OF MOSES AND MIRIAM (whole school) Exodus 15 v 1-2 What do we do when we are happy? Take pupil's answers – hopefully someone will say 'I sing' - if not, make that your idea Possible DVD clip to illustrate eg the end of Shrek or similar The song in Exodus 15 is a happy response following the escape from slavery in Egypt (which you could re-cap briefly) This is a response to God's living power, the God who has led Moses and the Israelites across the Red Sea. Miriam was the sister of Moses and Aaron. The focus should not be on the death of the Egyptians but in God's saving power and protection for his people! This is the same God who continues to save and to protect his people today.</p> <p>HANNAH'S SONG (whole school) 1 Samuel 2 v 1-4 This is a long passage – the first four verses convey how God had helped Hannah and how no-one compares with God. Hannah was old and childless, this made her very unhappy but God took pity on her and granted her a son, Samuel, whom she gave into God's service to thank him. Play a song which has a message about the way in which we treat others (as in Hannah's song, 'Don't let your mouth say such proud things'). Think about how songs can help us to look at ourselves. Focus on verse 3 of the song, exploring the importance of the words we use and how God knows what we say and how we say it perhaps acting out some scenes of the ways in which words can be used for good or ill.</p>	<p><i>'The Lord is my strength and my defence, he has become my salvation. He is my God and I will praise him'. (Exodus 15:1-2)</i> Use these words with some images suggesting 'strength', 'defence' 'salvation' Quietly reflect and/or use the words as a prayer.</p> <p>Encourage reflection on the words the pupils have used today and the words they will be using when they leave worship. <i>Dear Lord, Please be with me in all that I say today. may I not talk proudly or arrogantly. but humbly and thoughtfully. Amen</i></p>	<p>Encourage the pupils to leave worship singing each day this week so that they remember the theme of the week</p>



	<p>DAVID'S SONG (whole school) Psalm 18 v 1-6 Listen to a song that paints pictures/uses imagery. Find some images to match the words of the song and ask if the images help us to understand the words more clearly. Psalm 18 is very long – but the first few verses include some helpful images – God is described as a defender, a protector and a shield. This imagery can be explored with the children. David's life had been filled with adventure and danger – Goliath, Saul's attempts to kill him, wars and battles. Look at one of these stories using an appropriate version and explore how David had experienced God's protection and salvation in return for his loyalty to God. God can also be our defender, protector and shield.</p>	<p>Display the words 'God is my shield' with a picture of someone using a shield . Invite the children to thank God quietly for being their shield in difficult or dangerous times</p> <p>Encourage pupils to finish their own version of the Magnificat 'My soul glorifies the Lord because...' Pray these prayers together.</p>	
<p>KEY STAGE 1 (class or Key Stage worship) MARY'S SONG (The Magnificat) Luke 1 v 46-49 Play a joyful version of the Magnificat – there are many traditional as well as contemporary settings of this canticle or song. Ask pupils how the song makes them feel. Read Mary's words – explain that the angel has just told her that she is to have a baby. Which baby? Ask the children why Mary might have sung this song. Why was she happy? What makes them happy? How can we thank God today for all the good things he does and has given us which make us happy.</p>			