

HONESTY

Introduction

'The Whopper'
by Rebecca Ashdown



The purpose of these lessons is to develop pupils' perception, knowledge and understanding of different character virtues through the use of stories. In this lesson, the **MORAL** virtue of **HONESTY** is explored, using the book, 'The Whopper' by Rebecca Ashdown. To accompany these Teacher's Notes, a pupil activity and a PowerPoint are downloadable via the Jubilee Centre website (jubileecentre.ac.uk/readgrowgo).

The following supporting documents are provided online:

- Read Grow Go Introduction
- Honesty PowerPoint
- Honesty Pupil Activity
- 'The Whopper' Read-Along
- Other stories in the programme including: Dogger, The Breaking News, What Grew in Larry's Garden, Little People, Big Dreams: Greta Thunberg, Ada Twist – Scientist, Up the Creek and Counting on Katherine.



BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

Honesty is a moral virtue which can be defined as telling the truth and being sincere.

Aims of the lesson:

1. Virtue Perception: The lesson should allow pupils to notice situations within the story where honesty is needed.
2. Virtue Knowledge & Understanding: The lesson should teach pupils the meaning of the term 'honesty'. Pupils should be able to discuss why this virtue is important, both for themselves and others.
3. Reflection: Pupils should be given the opportunity to reflect on the story and how they can apply the virtue of honesty to their own life.

Summary of 'The Whopper'

'The Whopper' focuses on a lie told by the main character, Percy. Rather than admit the truth, Percy lies to his Mother about what has happened to the jumper his Grandma has knitted for him. As a result, a monster (known as 'The Whopper') appears next to Percy and grows every time he lies – including when he just stays silent. Percy battles between telling the truth and getting into trouble but discovers that, when he finally admits what really happened, the Whopper disappears and Percy can make amends for his mistake.

The following lesson plan provides a guide for teachers and gives suggestions for how to use the pupil resources. It offers inspiration and is a suggested way to conduct a lesson to explore this virtue. Teachers are encouraged to adapt the plan to best suit the needs of their class and individual pupils. Pupils should become aware of the virtue of honesty and its meaning; the story provides opportunities to discuss and reflect which will help to develop pupils' understanding of honesty.



HONESTY

Lesson Plan

KEY VOCABULARY: Virtue, honesty, being honest, telling the truth, telling lies, being truthful, owning up, being dishonest

RESOURCES: 'The Whopper' book or [read-along version](#) [available 12/20], Honesty PowerPoint, Honesty Pupil Activity, One Wonderful Word Honesty card, a balloon.

READ

10 MINUTES

Explain to the class that they are going to hear a special story which contains an important message. You would like them to try and work out what the message is but to keep it in their head until the end of the story. Explain that you are also looking for 'One Wonderful Word' – this is the virtue which is the theme of the story – HONESTY. Leave the questions on Slide 1 up on the screen as you read the story, 'The Whopper' by Rebecca Ashdown or, alternatively, listen to the read-along version. The 'One Wonderful Word' Honesty card should be accessible so that it can be revealed in the Grow discussion.

GROW

10 MINUTES

Discussion – ask the class to explain what they think the message of the story is. If not already mentioned, ask if they know what the 'One Wonderful Word' is. You can then reveal the HONESTY card which can be displayed in the classroom. Explain the definition of the term 'honesty' using Slide 2. Use the Key Questions to discuss this virtue in relation to the story and the pupils' own lives. Allow the class the chance to share any experiences they have had with telling the truth or lying, including how it made them feel. If the class struggle with this, you could model by sharing a suitable experience you have had with telling the truth.

15 MINUTES

Activity – Give each pupil a copy of the Honesty Pupil Activity sheet. Pupils need to match the words or pictures to the correct side of The Whopper. Teachers may need to differentiate the activity to best suit their pupils' needs; paired, shared, group or guided work is encouraged. See Differentiation for suggestions around activity support and challenge.



KEY QUESTIONS

- Why do you think Percy felt 'horrible' and needed 'to be alone' after he lied?
- What happened when Percy stayed silent about his jumper?
- How do you think Percy felt when he finally told the truth and the Whopper disappeared?
- Have you ever felt like Percy after you've been dishonest?
- When might we be tempted to tell a lie?
- Why is it important that we are honest and tell the truth?



DIFFERENTIATION

- To challenge, remove the words from the bottom of the sheet and encourage pupils to come up with their own answers.
- Pupils can copy the words from the box into the correct side of The Whopper.
- Enlarge the sheet to A3. Pupils can place individual pre-cut words into the correct side of The Whopper or give spoken answers to an adult.
- Use the pictorial version for pupils who struggle with their reading or writing.
- Draw or write a scene which shows someone lying and someone being honest.

HONESTY

Lesson Plan

GO

🕒 10 MINUTES

Bring the class together again to discuss the answers to the activity. Begin with the 'Telling a Lie' section – each time a pupil provides a correct word or picture from this section, have an adult blow once into a balloon. Continue until all words and pictures from this section have been read out but leave the balloon un-tied. Repeat with the 'Telling the Truth' section but this time let some air out from the balloon to show how The Whopper grows every time we lie but disappears when we tell the truth. Encourage the class to make a really big effort to always try and tell the truth and be honest.

