



The Soup Stone

Aim:

To show that everyone has a role to play in our community.

Preparation and Materials:

A large saucepan.

Water.

A large stone that fits into the pan.

Chopped onions, potatoes, vegetables, herbs, and seasoning.

Assembly:

Entry music: We Go Together, Grease soundtrack.

1. Show the children the saucepan and ask what it is used for/what sort of things you might cook in it. Explain that you are going to tell a story today all about soup and sharing.
2. Tell the following story, using the props:

One wet and windy night, a traveller from far away knocked on the door of an old lady in the village. He had been travelling for a long time and was very hungry so he asked if she had any food. She shook her head and said that she had nothing to share. "Never mind," he said, "I have a magic stone that makes the most delicious soup in the world if you add it to a pan of boiling water." The old lady was very excited about this soup so put a big pan of water on the hob. The visitor set his stone very carefully inside the pan. The old lady ran to tell all of her neighbours about her visitor and the soup. They all wanted to try some, so came and watched. As the water boiled, the visitor dipped a spoon to taste the soup. "Hmmm, delicious," he said, "but it just needs a touch of onion." One of the neighbours said, "I have one spare" so ran and quickly brought back an onion for the soup. "Hmmm," said the visitor, "it could just do with some potatoes." Up jumped a farmer who collected some potatoes from his farm and added them to the soup. The visitor tasted again. "It is almost perfect," he said, "but some vegetables would really finish it off." The old lady found a couple of carrots and leeks in her cupboard, which she quickly chopped and added to the soup. "Seasoning," cried the visitor and, with a flourish, he added salt and pepper to the soup. The stranger took a final taste and danced with glee. 'Bowls and spoons for everyone!' he shouted. People rushed off to their homes to find bowls and spoons. Some even brought back bread, cheese and fruit. Then they all sat down to a delicious meal. The traveller ladled out large helpings of his magical soup. Everyone felt happy as they sat down to the very first meal they had shared as a whole village. In the middle of the meal the stranger slipped quietly

The Character Curriculum

Flourishing for Life



away, leaving behind the magical soup stone, which they could use any time they wanted to make the most delicious soup in the world.

3. Discuss the following questions:

Was the stone really magical?

How was the soup really made?

Who played a part in making the soup?

What does this story tell us about working together?

4. Explain that our school is a community and, like the villagers making the soup, everyone has a part to play to create a safe and happy school. Some people only had something small to bring (like one potato) but everyone had an important part to play.

Reflection:

Think about the different people in our school community: the teachers, the pupils, the parents, the lunchtime supervisors, the cleaners, the office staff... What do each of them do to make our school community a safe and happy place?

Challenge:

What can you do this week to make our school community a safe and happy place?