

WORKING TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE A CHALLENGING TASK



LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Children can recognise the different jobs that people have when they cooperate. Children can discuss their job and others' jobs in a teamwork task. They describe how they can work together.

Suggested Resources:

Big Pumpkin by Erica Silverman. Access to a hall is required, as are four blue mats and four benches.

Script:

Ask children to remember what they learned in the previous lesson about cooperation. Ensure children arrive at the main focus of the previous lesson: that many hands make light work and that when children cooperate they can achieve bigger and better things. This week they will think about how they might work together and what each child can bring to a task. Read the story of the *Big Pumpkin* by Erica Silverman. Did children think the bat would save the day? Why not? What did the other characters learn about cooperating? Steer children towards a discussion of how everyone plays an important role in an activity.

Suggested Activities:

Organise the class into four equal groups. In each corner of the hall there should be a mat (a shark-

infested sea) with a bench over it (the bridge). Explain the task to children: children will stand on the bench and must organise themselves from tallest to shortest without falling into the shark infested sea. How are they going to organise themselves? Who will make sure that they are in height order? How will they help each other move along the bench? Remind children about safe use of the equipment. This activity can be made more challenging: ask children to get into order of height in silence; ask children to organise themselves according to the first letter of their names: A, B, C, etc.. Remind children that, just as in the story of the *Big Pumpkin*, it doesn't matter how short or tall children are - they must all help each other to get into order.

Plenary:

What job did you have? Each group explains to the class how they helped each other to complete the task. How did they work together? Who had what role? What was the hardest part of the activity? How did they overcome this?

Character Coaching

Meaningful Praise:

Well done – you have shown to me that when you cooperate and listen carefully to each other you can complete a very challenging task.

Correction:

Remember that in order to complete this very challenging task, you need to cooperate, which means that you must listen and look carefully at each other and decide on a way to complete the task together. If one of you decides not to, the whole group will fail to complete the challenging task.

