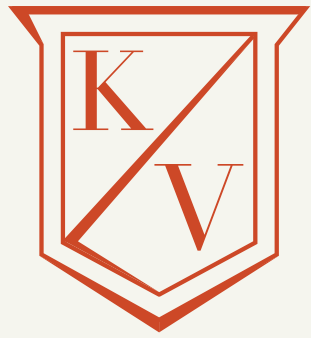


Heroes Who Inspire



TEACHER'S NOTES

Gareth & Lynette

Gareth & Lynette — Introduction

The purpose of this pack is to reaffirm and develop pupils' knowledge and understandings of the character virtues, with particular reference to the virtues of **self-discipline** and **courage**.

To accompany these **Teacher's Notes**, **Gareth & Lynette – The Story**, and **Gareth & Lynette – Resources for Pupils** are downloadable via the Jubilee Centre for Character and Virtues website (www.jubileecentre.ac.uk/knightlyvirtuesresources).

The following supporting documents are also provided online:

- **Knightly Virtues Introduction Materials**
- **Virtues Toolkit** including activities on the following virtues: Self Discipline, Honesty, Love, Gratitude, Justice, Courage, Service, Humility
- **Gareth & Lynette PowerPoint**
- **Other stories in the programme** including El Cid, Don Quixote, Merchant of Venice, Robin Hood, Rosa Parks, Beowulf, Joan of Arc and Anne Frank

Background Information for Teachers

This information is to supplement the Gareth & Lynette PowerPoint which provides an introduction to the story, available online (www.jubileecentre.ac.uk/knightlyvirtuesresources)

In the tale of Gareth and Lynette, Gareth is one of the younger sons of the King of Orkney and he cannot wait to follow his brothers Gawain and Gaheris to the court of King Arthur where he hopes to join the chivalric round table fellowship. His reluctant mother eventually allows him to go, only on condition that he works anonymously as a kitchen boy for twelve months before he seeks knighthood to embark on a quest. This he does, enduring with patience and fortitude, and his quest comes when the Lady Lynette comes to the court of King Arthur to ask the help of Sir Lancelot to free her sister the Lady Lyonors (sometimes Lyonesse) from the clutches of the Red Knight. Lynette is horrified when King Arthur grants the request of Gareth -- an apparent kitchen scullion -- to undertake this task. In the context of the Knightly Virtues Programme, the key virtues displayed by Gareth include humility, fortitude and courage. Apart from the courage that Gareth proceeds to demonstrate in facing formidable foes on the quest, he endures with astonishing gentleness and forbearance the bullying of the court steward Sir Kay (foster-brother of Arthur) and the condescending taunts and insults of the Lady Lynette - both of whom despise him for what they take to be his low and ignoble station. But a larger moral lesson here -- further

amplified in the El Cid story – is that in the moral and spiritual sphere we should not, as it were, ‘judge a book by its cover’. A major point of the story is that virtue is not necessarily linked to social class, but to firm moral character and conduct, e.g. the rude and bullying Sir Kay is a knight but clearly lacks the knightly virtues. In principle, although courage, gentleness and humility are knightly virtues, one does not have to have the social status of a knight to possess them. An interesting contrast is drawn in the story between Sir Lancelot, who is always gentle and encouraging towards Gareth and Sir Kay who treats Gareth badly. Sir Kay cannot see the positive virtues in Gareth’s character, because he lacks them himself.

Gareth & Lynette — Lesson Plan

Title: Gareth & Lynette – Self-discipline and Courage

Year Group 5/6

Curriculum links: Literacy, History

Learning Objectives

1. To understand what the virtues of self-discipline and courage mean in the story of Gareth and Lynette;
2. To accurately identify vocabulary which illustrate the virtues of self-discipline and courage from the story of Gareth and Lynette;
3. To demonstrate sustained attention to an extended narrative and answer relevant questions accurately;
4. To be able to accurately retrieve information from the narrative which illustrates an answer or point of view.

Learning Outcomes

1. To be able to identify and describe the virtues of self-discipline and courage;
2. To begin to be able to relate the virtues of self-discipline and courage to our own lives today.

Resources

Related Knightly Virtues resources, including the Virtues Toolkit, are available via www.jubileecentre.ac.uk/knightlyvirtuesresources

Provided: Gareth & Lynette narrative, Gareth & Lynette Teacher's Notes, Gareth & Lynette Resources for Pupils

Not Provided: Interactive White Board, Flipchart, Pens

Introduction (15mins)

Introduce/reaffirm the meaning of character and virtue (Knightly Virtues Introduction PowerPoint,). Introduce the Knightly Virtues definitions of self-discipline and courage (Virtues Toolkit). Establish open space for pupil engagement principles.

The Story (30-35mins)

Read the story to pupils. Provide pupils with the opportunity to clarify understanding. Provide pupils with access to the Glossary for reference to character names and new vocabulary.

Activity (15-20mins)

Virtue in Focus: Self-Discipline

Ask the pupils to work on their own to find two examples of where Gareth demonstrates the virtue of self-discipline in his quest to become a knight. Ask them to share their thoughts with the person sitting next to them. Ask pupils to discuss what they can learn from the story to help them develop the virtue of self-discipline in their own lives.

Plenary (15mins)

Bring the group together to discuss the examples of self-discipline found within the story and invite them to share their thoughts on what they can learn from Gareth to enhance their own self-discipline. Show and read the courage virtue card (available in the Virtues Toolkit) and introduce the homework task.

Progression/Homework

Virtue in Focus: Courage

Courage task from the Virtues Toolkit found online at www.jubileecentre.ac.uk/knightlyvirtuesresources