

TEACHING CHARACTER

THROUGH THE PRIMARY CURRICULUM

A CROSS-CURRICULA APPROACH
TO TEACHING CHARACTER

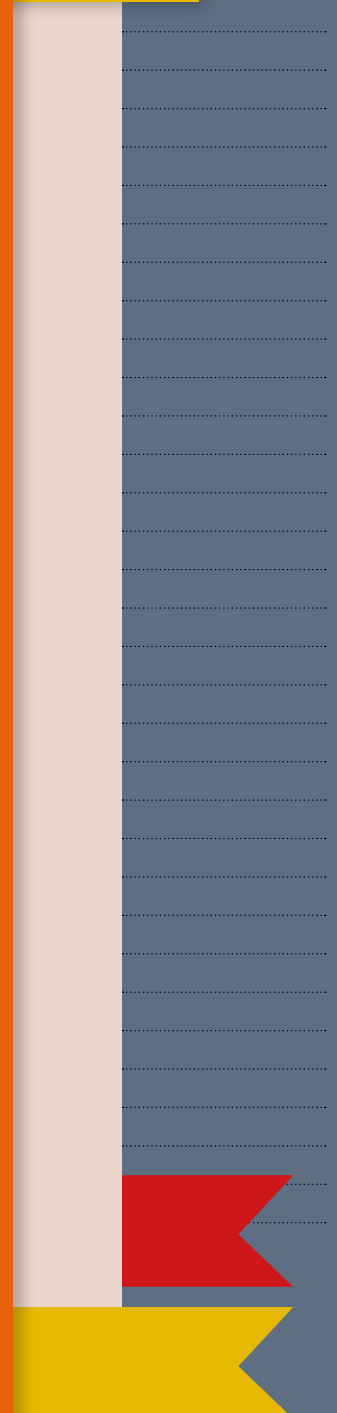
COURAGE UNDER FIRE

TEACHER'S NOTES

VIRTUE: COURAGE - SUBJECT: ENGLISH



THE
JUBILEE CENTRE
FOR CHARACTER & VIRTUES



TEACHING CHARACTER

COURAGE UNDER FIRE — JOHN SIMPSON



TEACHER'S NOTES

The purpose of this pack is to reaffirm and develop pupils' knowledge and understandings of character virtues, with particular reference to the primary virtue of **courage** and the secondary virtues of resilience, ambition, curiosity, honesty and integrity. These virtues should be highlighted as important to a successful transition from Year 6 (Key Stage 2 Primary) to Year 7 (Key Stage 3 Secondary). To accompany these Teacher's Notes, Courage Under Fire – Pupil Activity, Courage Under Fire Narrative and a PowerPoint are downloadable via the Jubilee Centre for Character and Virtues website.

THE FOLLOWING SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ARE ALSO PROVIDED ONLINE:

- Teaching Character Through the Primary Curriculum Introduction Materials
- Pre-lesson Virtue Toolkit including activities on the following virtues: Curiosity, Courage, Focus, Resilience, Integrity, Drive, Charity and Service.
- Courage PowerPoint
- Other narratives in the programme including: Winston Churchill, Alan Turing, Emmy Noether, Luz Long, Wangari Maathai, Gertrude Elion and a Local Hero.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS:

This information is to supplement the Courage PowerPoint, which provides an investigatory approach into the role of a journalist. The 'Courage Under Fire' Narrative is available online and can be printed off for pupil use. The edited version of the 'Courage Under Fire' Narrative in this pack gives a simplified account of the Tiananmen Square Massacre of 1989. For reasons of space, this version focuses, in the main, on the challenges Simpson faced and his use of the virtue courage, to overcome these. The main focus of the narrative is to provide sufficient evidence of Simpson's courage in the journalistic context of the Tiananmen Square Massacre. The extract provides opportunities to discuss Simpson's virtues and disposition. The aim is for this lesson to open discussion about courage and the secondary virtues in focus (resilience, ambition, curiosity, honesty, integrity). Children should be given the opportunity to reflect on their learning and how these virtues are present in their own life.

Teachers may well wish to expand and develop work here, using direct links to the English curriculum and cross-curricula links to History or PSHE. These resources and lesson plans provide a guide and teachers are encouraged to adapt them to best suit the needs of their classroom.

OTHER RESOURCES

- <http://www.johnsimpson.tv/> – John Simpson biography
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/8070970.stm> – BBC John Simpson live report from Tiananmen Square

LESSON PLAN

COURAGE UNDER FIRE

This lesson plan, with accompanying PowerPoint, is a guide for teachers in how to best use the pupil resources provided. This plan should provide inspiration and is a suggested way to conduct a lesson to meet the objectives stated. Teachers are encouraged to adapt and develop this plan to best suit their class. The corresponding Virtue Toolkit lesson should be taught pre-lesson and the Virtue Glossary could be provided throughout the lesson to aid pupils' understanding. Teachers should use a selection of different methods and processes to facilitate discussion and reflection on the primary and secondary virtues in focus. It is important pupils become aware of the virtues and their meaning, but discussion and reflection will also aid pupils' understanding of them. Teachers may need to differentiate this lesson to best suit their pupils' needs; paired, shared, group or guided work is encouraged where needed.

TITLE: COURAGE UNDER FIRE – JOHN SIMPSON

PRIMARY VIRTUE: COURAGE

CURRICULUM LINK: ENGLISH – JOURNALISTIC WRITING

POSSIBLE CROSS-CURRICULA LINKS:

HISTORY – HISTORY OF INTEREST TO PUPILS

ENGLISH – RECOUNTS

PSHE – CITIZENSHIP

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. To understand what the virtue of courage means in the life of John Simpson.
2. To accurately identify vocabulary that illustrates the virtue of courage in the 'Courage Under Fire' Narrative.
3. To begin to be able to retrieve information from the narrative that illustrates a wider selection of virtues.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. To be able to identify and describe the virtue of courage and begin to relate it to their own lives.
2. To begin to discuss how different virtues occur together in positive or negative ways.
3. To begin to be able to relate the virtue of courage to the period of transition from Year 6 to Year 7.

RESOURCES

Provided: Courage Under Fire Narrative, Courage Under Fire Teacher's Notes, Courage Under Fire Pupil Activity, Courage PowerPoint, I Will cards.

Not Provided: Interactive White Board, Flipchart, Pens, Paper

INTRODUCTION

5 MINUTES

Introduce/affirm the meaning of character and virtue. Introduce the definition of courage (see Courage PowerPoint). Go over children's examples of this virtue in their own lives.

TEACHER LED ACTIVITY

20 MINUTES

Use PowerPoint and ask the question, what is journalism? Get children to discuss in groups or pairs. Reveal the definition and discuss unknown vocabulary or misconceptions if needed. Go over examples of journalism that children will be aware of e.g. newspapers, TV news. Move to next slide. Ask the children, what virtues do you need to have to become a good journalist? (Glossary provided). Discuss in pairs or groups and then reflect as a class. Encourage children to think if any of these virtues could have negative side effects for a journalist. Encourage them to think of times when the secondary virtues of resilience, ambition, curiosity, honesty and integrity might clash or might put a journalist in danger. Introduce John Simpson by using next slide.

CHILD LED ACTIVITY

25 MINUTES

Allow pupils time to read/or read to the pupils the 'Courage Under Fire' Narrative, instructing them to look closely for when the virtue in focus is displayed (provide highlighters if appropriate). Children must also reflect on secondary virtues present in the narrative (resilience, ambition, curiosity, honesty, integrity) and how these may have contributed towards John Simpson showing 'Courage Under Fire'. Were these virtues always positive? Did they have any negative consequences? Children then answer questions from activity sheet. Model if necessary.

PLENARY

10 MINUTES

Bring the group together to discuss the examples of courage found within the 'Courage Under Fire' narrative and how these may have developed or clashed with other virtues. Invite them to share their examples. Explain how this virtue will be important for when the children transition to Year 7. Provide 'I will' cards and get the children to write a statement of intent – one thing they will now do in regards to this virtue. Make sure they are achievable.