

Precious Places



Topic Focus

Caring for our environment, being an active citizen and beliefs about death

Overview

The activities in this topic develop children's appreciation of what makes a burial ground so special, exploring its atmosphere, their feelings towards it and what burial grounds mean to the local community. Children will investigate the ways in which people use burial grounds, how they are cared for as a unique habitat and how they can get involved. The activities also provide children with an opportunity to reflect upon different attitudes towards death and how life is celebrated and remembered.

The activities are: Something Special, Unique Uses, People Power, Making Sense of Life and Death.

EYFS, KS1 & KS2

Key Skills

Reflecting
Discussing
Empathising
Questioning
Problem Solving
Responding

Key Words

Manage
Conservation
Volunteer
Celebrate

Curriculum Links

This topic helps develop children's knowledge, skills and understanding in English, PSHE & Citizenship and RE.

EYFS

Personal, social and emotional development
Self-confidence and self-awareness
Managing feelings and behaviour
Making relationships



John Muir Award

Discover
Explore
Conserve
Share



Try these activities if you are working towards any of the following badges and challenges:

Rainbows - Look and Learn

Beavers - Creative Challenge Award, Explore Activity, Faith Activity, Global Challenge

Brownies - Culture, Seasons, Wildlife Explorer

Cubs - Community Challenge, Global Conservation Activity

Guides - Community Action, Discovering Faith, Challenge 1

Scouts: Heritage Activity, My Faith Activity, World Faiths Activity, Environment Partnership Award, Community Challenge Award

Something Special

This activity gives children an opportunity to express their personal reactions to the features and atmosphere of a burial ground. Children are encouraged to explore using all of their senses.

Learning Outcomes

Children will:

- Explore an outdoor environment using the senses to describe their emotions
- Identify details of their sensory experience and select words and images to describe them

Resources

Clipboard, paper/pupil sheet, coloured pencils, sketching pencils, glue, and camera.

Something Special Senses Template

Key Questions

How does the burial ground make you feel?

Do different areas make you feel differently?

Activity Ideas

1. Senses - Quietly walk around the burial ground and look, smell, listen, touch, feel. Your senses influence how you feel about a place. What are your senses telling you?

2. Create - a mood board of collected and captured ideas, feelings and thoughts. Children express how the burial ground makes them feel by using their senses to record words, take photographs, sketch, doodle, show colour and gather objects to add to their mood board. The something special senses template included in this pack could be used to support this lesson.

Plenary

Children come together to share and explain the reasons they chose what they did. They could give their mood board collection a title.

Back at School

Exciting Writing

Use the mood board to inspire a sensory poem or colour poem that expresses the children's feelings about the burial ground setting, its atmosphere, features, smells, sounds, emotions etc.

- The mood board could be central to the children's story planning and used to help write a story with the burial ground as the setting. Children will use their senses to create the mood they wish their readers to feel
- The mood board could also be used as a starting point for a variety of art projects

EYFS

Embark on a 'Senses Scavenger Hunt', a 'Sound Safari' or a 'Texture Trail' and collect words, images and items for a senses collage.



SOMETHING SPECIAL

