

Teacher notes

Year 1: Term 2 – Small but Strong

Unit overview and guidance

Introduce the theme – explore the phrase ‘Small but Strong’

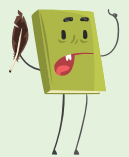
- Discuss what the word ‘strong’ means. Why might small things not be considered to be strong?

Explanation of theme

- There are many stories, dating all the way back to The Bible (David and Goliath) and Ancient Greece (Aesop’s the Lion and the Mouse) that teach us that seemingly physical weakness or diminutive stature is no indication of character’s potential strength. This links closely to idioms such as ‘Don’t judge a book by its cover’ and the idea that appearances can be misleading (a theme revisited through this programme in Year 3). By teaching this theme to children we are presenting them with a noble idea that will lead to them thinking about viewpoints and prejudice.

Exploring Non-fiction – Text: Small, but Strong! by Lucy Strange

- See separate lesson notes



Exploring Fiction – Text: The Lion and the Mouse by Lucy Strange

- See separate lesson notes



Exploring Poetry – Text: The Power Within by Joshua Seigal

- See separate lesson notes



Pulling it all together – explore the theme of ‘small but strong’

Discuss the questions below, exploring the theme of small but strong with the pupils after reading all three texts.

Small But Strong, The Lion and the Mouse, and The Power Within are texts about a similar topic.

- Which text did you enjoy the most?
- What makes you mighty? How can you use your ‘strengths’ to help others?
- Can you find/think of other small creatures or objects that are strong and/or helpful?