

What is Story Tent?

Story Tent offers easily accessible online teaching materials to support KS2 pupils to learn more about religions and worldviews through the lens of story. It provides resources that develop skills for intercultural and interfaith dialogue through an inquiry-based approach with an exploration of difference at its heart. Story Tent equips pupils with the confidence they need to live well in our increasingly globalised and diverse societies.

Based on Scriptural Reasoning principles, the project brings together the experience of the Rose Castle Foundation in delivering Scriptural Reasoning in adult inter-religious dialogue, and the Story Tent PhD research of Dr Anne Margaret Moseley, which has highlighted the impact that these encounters can have on primary aged pupils.

Story Tent Aims

- Provide age-appropriate resources to help pupils to become effective communicators and agents of change in an increasingly globalised world. It helps them to develop the confidence and skills to live well with difference in our increasingly interfaith and intercultural societies.
- Create a safe space where pupils can bring their full identity and experiences to the encounter. It is a place which exists outside of right and wrong to reflect a variety of beliefs, holding different views in tension to create points of connection across religious and cultural boundaries.
- Provide a context which can act as a catalyst to bring together and build bridges across different religious and non-religious communities. It provides a public space where children can develop acceptance and understanding of others whilst still honouring genuine differences in religious and cultural beliefs.

Story Tent Resources

We have created a 'Story Bank' which contains stories from different religions and worldviews. Each story comes with a set of questions that can be used in teaching, and a video where pupils can see a person from that religion or worldview reading the story. These materials are designed to be used flexibly to meet the different demands of diverse school contexts; for example school assemblies, guided reading and themed days.

What Next?

We want to find more ways of engaging and supporting schools. Some of our aims for the coming year include:

- Developing a digital space for safe digital interfaith encounters, bringing people of faith into the classroom remotely
- Developing more support materials to help teachers facilitate their own Story Tent day, including half day CPD training sessions.
- Running bi-monthly online scriptural reasoning training for teachers to give confidence in using the method.

Find Out More

Visit <u>www.storytent.online</u> and sign up for our newsletter Email <u>storytent@rosecastle.foundation</u> Follow us on Facebook @StoryTentUK