



17 MARCH 2023

# KEY STAGE 1 LEARNING ACTIVITIES

**Use this year's Red Nose Day film for primary schools as the starting point for some inspirational cross-curricular learning with your pupils**

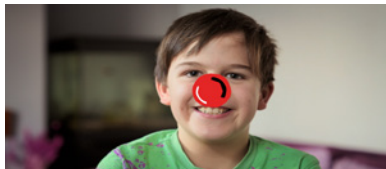
The film is about nine-year-old George from Yorkshire. George likes going out for walks in the country with his dog and making videos. He is autistic, which means that he has excellent attention to detail, but sometimes finds it hard to sit still and concentrate. He used to find life tough at times and struggled to go to school.

Going to sessions run by local charity Autism Angels, which is funded by Comic Relief, has changed George's life. Now he spends every Wednesday outdoors with horses, connecting with nature and making new friends. For the first time, he feels like he really belongs. He has grown in confidence, his behaviour has improved and he's much happier. He doesn't get so angry any more, and is getting on better at school and with his mum.

Show our short film in your class and then use these cross-curricular activities to help the pupils relate to George's story and reflect on their Red Nose Day fundraising.

## Other learning resources

Download all our resources for primary schools at [comicrelief.com/primary](https://comicrelief.com/primary)



### Film

The short film about George and how he has been helped by Autism Angels.



### Assembly

A PowerPoint for use in assemblies, which acts as an introduction to Red Nose Day 2023.



### Primary poster

A starting point for discussing George's story.



### Activity pack

Fun activities on a Red Nose Day theme for pupils to complete in circle time, at the end of the day or at home.

## Further information or support

Please be aware when watching the Red Nose Day film and using these activities that some children in your class are likely to have personal experience of the issues raised by George's story. If you would like further information or support, please visit [comicrelief.com/support](https://comicrelief.com/support)

# ENGLISH (SPOKEN LANGUAGE)

## George's story

Watch the film about George with the pupils. To encourage them to pay attention, tell them there's going to be a quiz afterwards!

Use the questions below to get them responding, describing and giving opinions. Encourage them to listen carefully and speak clearly.

- **How old is George?** (9)
- **Where does he live?** (Yorkshire)
- **Can you remember the names of his dog and cat?** (Star and Patchy)
- **What are George's favourite subjects at school?** (English, maths and history)
- **What is the name of the charity that is helping George?** (Autism Angels)
- **What is the name of his favourite horse?** (Blackjack)
- **Does George feel more or less angry since he started going to Autism Angels?** (less)
- **What special event is coming up when we're going to raise money to help charities like Autism Angels?** (Red Nose Day)

Check pupils' understanding of different aspects of the film and allow time for them to ask questions and extend their comprehension. This is an opportunity to reflect with pupils about their own direct or indirect experience of autism.



# RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION

## What makes a good friend?

One of the reasons George is happier since he started going to Autism Angels is that he has made friends. Talk with the pupils about why friendship is so important to us. How does spending time with friends make us feel? Encourage them to use words like 'happy', 'safe' and 'less worried'.

Divide the class into six groups and give each group, in secret, one of the following statements:

- **Good friends share**
- **Good friends listen to each other**
- **Good friends take turns**
- **Good friends help each other**
- **Good friends say kind things**
- **Good friends have fun!**

Ask them to pretend that it's playtime and that they're a group of good friends. Can they role play a story that shows the characteristic of friendship they have been given?

Ask each group to act out their scene and ask the rest of the class to guess what each role play is showing. Do they agree that these are all important characteristics of friendship?

# CITIZENSHIP

## How do I feel today?

Watch the film about George again and ask the class to notice all the words he uses to describe feelings (e.g. stressed, sad, down, angry, better in myself). Then ask the pupils to think of other words to describe how George seems at the end of the film (e.g. happy, excited, cheerful, confident).

Why do the pupils think George felt better once he had someone to talk to about his feelings? Ask them to tell you about times talking has helped them. How were they feeling and why? Who did they talk to? How did it help?

Finally, encourage the pupils to think about how they are feeling right now. Ask them to draw a picture of their face, add an expression, and write a word or words that best describe how they feel.

Give them an opportunity to share their drawing and words, either with a friend or with the rest of the class. Can they explain why they are feeling like this today?

# ART

## Animal portraits

Reflect with the pupils on why animals are so important to George. Ask them to remember the different animals in George's life:

- **His fish**
- **Star, his dog**
- **Patchy, his cat**
- **Blackjack, his favourite horse**

Are animals important to them too? Talk with the pupils about their pets. Can they describe them? If children don't have pets themselves, you could encourage them to talk about other animals they know, or ask them what would be their dream pet.

Based on your discussion, ask the pupils to draw or paint a portrait of an animal that is important to them. Provide materials that they could add to their portrait to create texture.



Photo credit: Mike Pinches

# MUSIC

## Sing for joy!

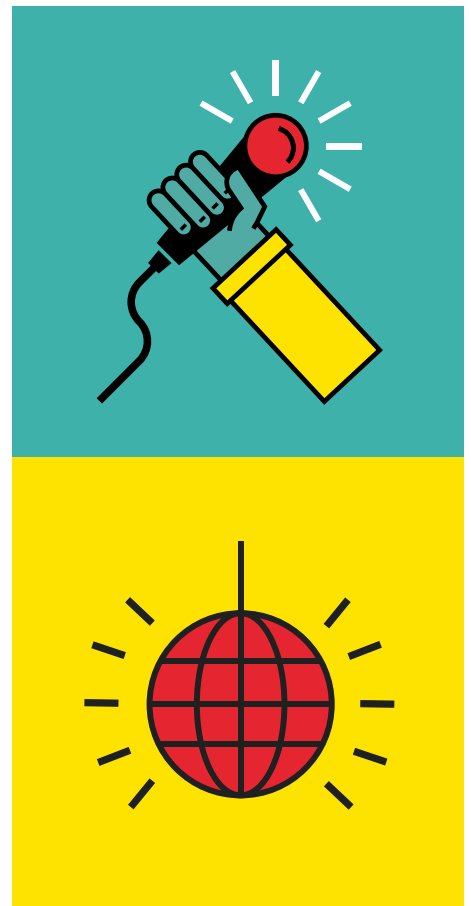
Red Nose Day is all about the joy of being part of something and feeling connected. And what better way to do this than by singing together?

Think of ideas for songs the pupils could sing that reflect the themes of Red Nose Day, for example:

- **Helping others**
- **Celebrating and having fun together**
- **Jokes and laughter**
- **The colour red**
- **Noses!**

You could play the pupils four or five songs and ask them to vote for their favourite to learn and sing together on Red Nose Day. Or you could practise a selection of songs and perform them as a class on the big day.

Why not turn it into a fundraiser, by asking for donations for family and friends to come and watch a special Red Nose Day concert?



# CURRICULUM LINKS

## George's Story

### English (spoken language)

- Develop confidence and competence in spoken language and listening skills
- Listen and respond appropriately to adults and their peers
- Ask relevant questions to extend their understanding and knowledge
- Maintain attention and participate actively in collaborative conversations
- Speak audibly and fluently

## What makes a good friend?

### Relationships education

- How important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure
- The characteristics of friendships, including mutual respect, truthfulness, trustworthiness, loyalty, kindness, generosity, sharing interests and experiences and support with problems and difficulties

## How do I feel today?

### Citizenship

- Recognise, name and deal with their feelings in a positive way

## Animal Drawings

### Art

- Use drawing and painting to develop and share their ideas, experiences and imagination
- Develop a wide range of art and design techniques in using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space

## Sing for joy!

### Music

- Use voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes