



## ▣ Assembly

## ▣ 11-14 year olds

## ▣ Preparation

If you have a way to project in your assembly, you can download the Powerpoint/Keynote presentation by searching for the 'Adventures in the Small Stuff' entry in the Resource Toolkit on the website.

If you are going to do this assembly without technology, collect some objects/posters that represent typical adventures to you (e.g. binoculars, hiking back pack, walking boots etc.) and have them to hand in a black sack.

## ▣ How to start

As students arrive, ask a few to write on Post-it notes their answer to this question: 'what comes to your mind when you hear the word "adventure"?'

Begin your assembly by reading out a few of the answers from the Post-it notes, explaining what question you asked as they were coming in to assembly.

Say that today you will be exploring together for a few minutes what it means to have an adventure, and that reading out some of their answers has been a good start. Say that you also asked Google this question and the answers came out a bit like this: (show pictures from the presentation) OR get out the bag of objects that represent a typical adventure to most people.

Wonder out loud with them when was the last time each of us had an adventure? When you hear that word, you might start thinking about the last time you went on holiday or when you last had a big challenge to overcome like learning to abseil on a school trip.

## ▣ Introduce the story

Carl Fredricksen is a 78 year-old man who grew up wanting to travel and explore the world and experience an adventure. Do you recognise what movie he is from? (show next slide from presentation).

Say: Many of you will have seen Pixar's 2009 creation 'Up', all about a boy who wanted to go on an adventure. He grew up and got to the age of 78 before being able to experience what he saw as the adventure of his life. Before we look more at Carl's story, we have a game to play together.

## ▣ Memory game

This can be set up as an explorer's toolkit in which there are 20 'essential' travel items displayed on screen (there is a slide of 20 items you can use in the presentation). Select 3 volunteers, or prepare them ahead of time. Show the items on screen for a total of 15 seconds and at the end ask your 3 volunteers to try and remember as many items as they can (make it hard, in fact make it impossible).

Ask them what happens when things go wrong? What happens if you forget one of your essential items? What happens if you get to 78 and you still haven't had the opportunity to go on the adventure of your life?. Say that perhaps we should have a go today at looking at adventures differently. Let's go back to the story of our 78 year-old friend, Carl Fredricksen (show picture again).



### ▶ Story

This character dreamt about going on the adventure of his life with his wife Ellie, but something happened (I won't spoil the story if you haven't seen it yet!) before they had a chance to go. There came an incredible moment near the end of the film where the old man turned to the adventure scrapbook his wife had kept since she was a child. This book had a page at the front saying "things I want to do in my life" and Carl always closed the book there thinking that she had never got around to doing the things she really wanted to do on their big 'adventure'. One day, there was this moment when Carl noticed something else in the scrapbook. He turned the pages, and instead of finding them empty, he found every single one of them full. They were full of pictures and stories of their lives together: their wedding day, fun things they had done, friends they shared and memories they had made. Carl Fredricksen learned that day that adventure wasn't about travelling half way around the world and building a house on top of a waterfall, it was about sharing life with someone and making the most of everyday.

### ▶ Reflect

I wonder if for each of us, sometimes we wait for the big adventures and the things we think are going to be exciting, when actually the biggest adventure we could ever have is living every day to the full and making the most of what we have available to us today. Maybe having an adventure isn't so much about going on a safari in Africa, but learning something new that changes your perspective about the world. Maybe having an adventure isn't flying solo around the world but today is about learning some new words in a different language. How can we, at the start of this new year, make the most of today, and live each day as an adventure?

There was a man who lived on earth over 2000 years ago who talked about living life to the full, and it was his birth that Christians celebrated last month. Jesus once said that he had come to give life and life to the full. I wonder what it means for you to live life to the full this year? Why don't you reflect on that question for a moment before we finish our assembly today?

(extra slides available at the end of the presentation you can use for to help with this).