



Assembly Plan

You will need:

- A copy of the book *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*
- Large sheets of paper and poster pens
- A Christmas hat
- A sack or large bag
- Music to accompany a song that is known by all the children
- Three paper heart shapes – one small, one medium and one large
- Small heart shapes made from white paper – enough for one per child



Assembly Plan:

1. Begin by asking the opening question: How can you grow your heart three sizes? Display the question on poster paper at the front of the room. Elicit children's ideas briefly then promptly move on by telling children that by the end of the assembly they will all know the answer.
2. Read the story *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. As you read, ask for volunteers to come to the front of the room and mime the story. You will need one child to play the Grinch and one child to play Cindy-Lou. You may also wish to use a few children to play Whos.
3. As you read the story guide the volunteers to mime the roles. Provide the child playing the Grinch with the Christmas hat and sack so they can act out the Grinch stealing all the Christmas items from Cindy-Lou's house.
4. At the end of the story, when the Whos all hold hands and sing together, ask all of the children in the assembly to stand up together and hold hands whilst singing a song that they know well and you can play accompanying music for.
5. When children are settled after singing, finish the story by reading the final pages carefully and slowly to emphasize the meaning. Give the child playing the Grinch the heart shapes to hold up, starting with the smallest and then swapping it with you for the middle size and then the large size. Remind the child to smile more each time.
6. After the story, return to the opening question displayed on a poster. Ask the children again: How can you grow your heart three sizes? and elicit ideas from them based on the story.
7. Explain to the children that they can grow their heart by doing good deeds.
8. Elicit the meaning of good deeds and ask children to share good deeds that they already do and ideas of those they could do.
9. As children leave the assembly, hand each child a small white paper heart. Ask them to write a good deed that they promise to do on their heart and return it to you later in the day. You can then make a Grow Your Heart display in a communal area.





Assembly Plan

Curriculum Links (KS1)

Year 1:

Pupils should be taught to:

- Understand both the books they can already read accurately and fluently and those they listen to by:
 - discussing the significance of the title and events

Year 2:

Pupils should be taught to:

- Understand both the books they can already read accurately and fluently and those they listen to by:
 - answering and asking questions

Curriculum Links (KS2)

Understand what they read, in books they can read independently, by:

- checking that the text makes sense to them, discussing their understanding and explaining the meaning of words in context
- drawing inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence
- identifying main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph and summarising these