

Welcoming without Words

Choose two volunteers. One of the volunteers dresses up. They will be a visitor from another country coming to the host's home. Since they both speak different languages, the host has to mime every message.

The host chooses a message from the bowl and mimes it for the other person, who tries to guess what the message is. When the visitor guesses correctly, the two swap roles and have another turn.

Then ask for two more volunteers

Talk afterwards:

How easy or difficult did you find this?

How did you feel?

How do you behave when you meet someone who does not speak your language well?

What would it be like to be in a country that did not speak your language?

What are some ways that we can be welcoming to people who speak another language?

How can you be welcome without using words?

Would you like a cold drink?

Are you tired? Would you like to sit down?

You are wearing beautiful clothes.

Do you need to go to the toilet?

Have you already eaten dinner?

Would you like to see our pet goldfish?

Did you travel by car or boat to get here?

Your hair looks very nice.

How many people are in your family?

Do you have any pets?

Do you play any sport?

Would you like to watch TV?

Do you play a musical instrument?

I have three sisters and a pet rat.

The weather has been very warm.

Ripples

Watch the video clip.

When we do something good, it can have a ripple effect. It can gently encourage other people to do good as well. Kindness is shared gently; you can't force people to be kind.

Dip your finger in the water and see the ripples.

Naomi's kindness to Ruth had a ripple effect that continued for many years.

I wonder how your life makes ripples...

To whom have you offered welcome recently?

To whom have you been good or kind?

To whom have you been forgiving or accepting?

In the water, write the name of a person with your fingertip.

Reflect on how your life might be a ripple in their life.

Say a quiet prayer for them.

Colours

Watch the video of “Colours of the Wind”.

Look at some of the images of people of different cultures.

What thoughts and feelings do you have as you see their faces, their homes, their customs, their land?

Cut out a leaf from card. Write on it something that you appreciate about other people and their ways of living.