

Topic: SPIRIT OF ENQUIRY

Objective: To encourage introspection and the importance of being aware of the thoughts in the mind and an expanded view of life.

Value insight and imagination as ways of perceiving reality.

To develop a personal interest in metaphysical questions, and the desire to search for meaning in life.

Connecting different aspects of life into a meaningful whole.

Ability to draw meaning from art, poetry and symbolism.

Curriculum Links: Drama, English, Geography, Music, RE

Key words: eager, plantation, pun

Materials needed:

- The Manual or copy of lesson plan
- Page 36 of the Introduction Manual
- Art paper
- Coloured crayons
- CD player
- CD with music for silent sitting
- CD with music for the song
- Pages of drama for 6 pupils

QUOTATION/THEME FOR THE WEEK



KNOW THYSELF
(Oracle at Delphi)

What do you think this ancient injunction means?

How are we different as we go through life?

And how are we the same?

In what ways might life be better for you if you did “know yourself”?

SILENT SITTING

Step 1 *(See page 36 of the Introduction Manual)*

Steps 2, 4 *(Optional)*

Step 5: Think of a time when smell, taste, sight, touch or hearing made your life more enjoyable....

saved you from danger...

helped you understand someone else better

helped you find a way to solve a problem ...

Step 6.

DRAMA

THE SECRET WELL

by Carole Alderman

The scene is set in Antigua in the West Indies, just before Christmas.

Characters: *Narrator*
 Peter
 Peter's Parents
 Leroy
 Marvin
 Spike

Narrator: Peter found a secret well
 Deep within a cave
 A source of water sweet and pure
 For which he'd always crave.

Peter is a lively, kind and friendly boy, living with his family in Antigua. He enjoys games, reading and exploring the countryside. He is eager to learn and to know and is not afraid of asking questions.

Peter's father: Peter, for the Christmas holidays this year we are all going to stay in Jamaica with my sister on their plantation.

Peter: Cool, Dad. That means I'll have my thirteenth birthday in Jamaica, too! It will be great to see aunt, uncle and my cousins. There will be new places to explore.

The scene changes to Jamaica.

Narrator: Once on the island, Peter soon made friends and off he and the other boys would go exploring the area around their district, and looking at the rivers and caves.

Leroy: There is a cave which is especially fascinating. Come on, Peter, I want to show it to you. It's our favourite place.

Marvin: Yes. Wait till you see it, Peter. It's like a house with a wide entrance leading into an enormous big hall.

Spike: And there are smaller caves on either side like rooms which even have small recesses in the rocky walls like cupboards.

Leroy: Here we are. Let's go in. Be careful because the further you go into the caves the narrower they become.

Marvin: We're not sure just how many caves there are. There's a danger of getting lost or stuck in the smaller tunnels.

Spike: We never go far unless in twos or threes and with a rope keeping us together. Besides it's more fun to play in the outer caves where we can stand upright.

Leroy: One of our favourite 'rooms' has a deep well containing water as clear as crystal.

Peter: Let's tie some string around our sandwich box and lower it into the well to draw the water up.

(They do so)

Peter: It tastes delicious. Much better than I get at home.

Narrator: One day Peter was feeling particularly adventurous and so, together with his best friend, he ventured deeper into the cave than he had been before. The cave became no more than a tunnel so narrow and flat that at first he had to crawl along it and then wriggle on his tummy.

Peter: I can feel the rock dropping away in front. I'll shine my torch to see what is ahead. There's a small opening. Leroy, ask Marvin and the others to come to see.

Leroy: They don't want to, Peter. Crawling into such a small place makes them feel claustrophobic.

Marvin: Come on, everyone. It's time to go.

Narrator: Peter, however, with his passion to find out about everything, having glimpsed this inner well, decides he's going to find out if it contains water. The next day, he and his friend, Leroy, armed with a small can and lengthy piece of string, set out on their quest.

Peter: This inner well is very deep. I'll have to go home for more string. How frustrating!

Narrator: Peter is determined to achieve his goal.

Peter: I'll have to run to the village shop to buy more string. Leroy, will you wait here? I'll get back as quickly as I can.

Narrator: As Peter returns, the inner well seems even more fascinating than ever.

Peter: I haven't had breakfast, and now I'll miss lunch! But I must see if the well has water and find out what it's like. Come on, Leroy. We won't waste any more time. Thanks for waiting so patiently for me.

Narrator: They hurry through the outer caverns until they find the inner entrance again and, tying one end of his rope to himself and the other to his friend, Peter wriggles quickly back along the narrow tunnel.

Peter: It's very still inside this cave. Here is the hole. I'll lower the lunchbox on the string. What a strange whispering echo it makes as it reaches what must be water. I'll just pull it up again. Carefully does it! Wow, it's sweeter than I've ever tasted before. The effort to taste this well's water is well worth the effort!

(Peter laughs, feeling happy).

Narrator: In later years, Peter would often remember his experience and the feeling of total stillness and peace in that tiny tunnel deep within the earth. The water had a delicious flavour such as he would never taste again and which he never forgot.

Even when he became an old man, his grandchildren would come and ask him to tell them about the secret well and he never tired of remembering and recounting his adventure and sharing his deep experience of unity and peace with those he loved.

Peter found a secret well
Deep within a cave
A source of water sweet and pure
For which he'd always crave.

Peter had another well
Within his heart of hearts
The source of peace and joy so pure
The place where all love starts.

Peter was a thoughtful boy
Adventurous, brave and true.
He had a secret well inside
Perhaps you have one too!

QUESTIONS: *Support answers to questions 2 to 4 with evidence from the text.*

1. What is a pun?
2. What made the cave so attractive to Peter?
3. What can you say about the quality of the water in the well?
4. Can you describe his experience?
5. How did Peter value his family?
6. Discuss what the inner meaning might be.
7. What values are depicted in this drama?
8. How did you feel when you heard saw or acted out the drama?
9. Did the plot remind you of anything about your own life?

Key words: *Look up any of the words in the dictionary that you have not understood and make sure you understand them and can spell them.*

GROUP SINGING

HEART'S SONG

*(lyrics by L. McCartney and Nicky Gilbert,
music by Stuart Jones)*

In our hearts we know there dwells
A force of truth - pure love itself.
*To make it grow, we gotta sow
Some seeds of harmony.
To let it grow, we gotta give it
Freedom to breathe.*

In our hearts there is a flame
Truth alone unveils its name.
*To make it grow, we gotta sow
Some seeds of harmony.
To let it grow, we gotta give it
Freedom to breathe.*

In our hearts there shines a light
And that love is our birthright.
*To make it grow, we gotta sow
Some seeds of harmony.
To let it grow, we gotta give it
Freedom to breathe.*

In our hearts there plays a song
And it calls us to be one.
*To make it grow, we gotta sow
Some seeds of harmony.
To let it grow, we gotta give it
Freedom to breathe.*