

LESSON PLAN · KEY STAGE 1 · ABOUT 50 MINUTES

Courage & Kindness with Poppy

Using **Enchanted Adventures of Poppy**, free to read on screen in the Dream Machine. Poppy isn't the fastest flyer, but when a baby star falls, she knows how to help it home.

Learning objectives

- To recognise how characters feel and why.
- To understand that kindness and helping others can take courage.
- To value our own strengths, even when they're not "being the best".

Curriculum links

- **PSHE / Relationships Education:** caring friendships; respecting differences.
- **English, spoken language:** listening and responding; giving reasons.
- **English, reading:** discussing the significance of events; predicting.

You will need

- A screen to show the story: sparkletreepress.com/dream-machine.html (choose *Play* for narration, or read it aloud yourself)
- Paper stars (one per child) and pencils or crayons
- Optional: the Poppy colouring page "Count the stars" from the colouring pack

Lesson outline

Time	Activity
Starter 5 min	Show the cover. Ask: "Poppy is wishing for something. What do you think it is?" Take a few predictions.
Story 10 min	Read or play the story. Pause on page 4 (the crying baby star): "How is the star feeling? How do you know?" Pause on page 5: "Poppy says she isn't the fastest, but she knows the way. What does she mean?"
Talk partners 10 min	In pairs: "Poppy helped even though she was small and slow. Why was that brave?" Then: "Tell your partner about a time someone helped you."
Activity 15 min	My helping star. Each child writes or draws one way they can be kind or help someone this week on a paper star, and one thing they are good at on the back.
Plenary 10 min	Build a class "night sky" display with the stars. Read some aloud. Finish with the story's last line: Poppy still wasn't the fastest dragon in the sky, and she didn't mind at all. Ask: "Why didn't she mind?"



Differentiation

Support

- Offer sentence starters: "I can help by...", "I am good at..."
- Children can draw instead of writing.
- Use the feelings faces below during the story pauses.

Challenge

- Write a short diary entry as the baby star.
- Explain why the star "stopped crying somewhere near the top" using evidence from the story.

Assessment

Look for	Working towards	Expected	Greater depth
Identifies how a character feels	Names a feeling with support	Names a feeling and points to a clue	Explains how and why the feeling changes
Links kindness and courage	Says Poppy helped	Says why helping was brave for Poppy	Connects it to their own experience
Values own strengths	Names a strength with help	Names a strength on their star	Explains why it matters, like Poppy knowing the way

Feelings faces

Hold up during the story pauses: "Which face is the baby star? Which is Poppy?"



sad / scared



calm / safe



happy / proud

Extend it: read **The Brave Little Pixel** (also free in the Dream Machine) and compare: both Poppy and Pip help when it would be easier not to. How are they alike?