

Activities, Games and Stories for
Developing Children's
Spiritual Intelligence



A
Moon
on
Water

Includes 2 free CDs containing printable
resources, stories and music

Roy Leighton, Trisha Lee,
Tim Harding and Steve Bowkett

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Crown House Publishing Ltd
www.crownhouse.co.uk
www.crownhousepublishing.com

First published by
Crown House Publishing Ltd
Crown Buildings, Bancyfelin, Carmarthen, Wales, SA33 5ND, UK
www.crownhouse.co.uk
and
Crown House Publishing Company LLC
6 Trowbridge Drive, Suite 5, Bethel, CT 06801, USA
www.crownhousepublishing.com

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British Library of Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

A catalogue entry for this book is available
from the British Library.

10-digit ISBN 184590392-7
13-digit ISBN 978-184590392-3

LCCN 2009936672

Printed and bound in the UK by
Bell & Bain Ltd, Glasgow



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How to use this book

This delightful book contains stories, activities, music and worksheets to be mixed and matched to create your own lessons. There are two CDs in the back of the book, the audio CD contains stories from the book with accompanying music. The resources CD contains the printable resources for classroom activities. We have indicated the relevant tracks and filenames in the Contents listing below.

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Resources CD 1 *Tales to Tell.pdf* contains 4 quotes supplied as separate A4 posters

Saying Goodbye 13

Dealing with crises in life/exploration of death and dying/stages of bereavement/notion of 'a beyond'.

Resources CD 2 *Saying Goodbye.pdf* contains the illustration supplied as an A4 poster

Audio CD Track 2. Story read by Roy Leighton

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Resources CD 4 *The Harp of Dagda.pdf* contains the illustration supplied as an A4 poster

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Audio CD Track 10. Story read by Tim Harding	

A Time for Everything



Key ideas:

One of the most important things we can learn – and pass on to children – is that it is good to have a sense of occasion. As demonstrated in this book, our lives can contain moments of sadness, seriousness, thoughtfulness – and silliness. We all like to be silly sometimes – but there’s a time and place!

We went into the hall for assembly and sat quietly. There was some soft music playing – everybody was sitting listening to it – the whole school. So I sat down in my row and started to listen too. And then I don’t know why, but I thought, ‘What will happen if I make a really rude noise? A loud, rude noise. A really, really loud rude noise ... the noise just like when you – well you know what I mean. And I’m good at that – making rude noises. Everybody would turn around and look. Everybody would laugh. The teachers would be mad – Mrs Mac would say “Jo – out!” And I’d be in real trouble – again ... but hey ... street cred!’

I’d heard that music before – loads of times – and I knew there was a quiet bit coming up where all the instruments went really soft and held on, before it went loud again. Perfect. So it got to the quiet bit and I looked around ...

Everybody else was listening to the music, and they seemed to be enjoying it. It gave me a really nice feeling and then I thought: ‘If I make a stupid noise, maybe it’ll spoil it – and the music’s not bad either. I listened to it for a bit longer thinking ... shall I ... shall I ...?’

And then before I knew it Mrs Johnson – she’s the deputy head – was saying ‘Good morning everybody’ and the assembly started. I’d missed it! And Mrs Johnson was saying, ‘This is a passage from the Bible ...

*A time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
a time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to break down, and a time to build up;
a time to weep, and a time to laugh;*

It was a time for listening – and thinking.

And then it was time to go out – and we went straight outside into the yard. And I made the loudest rude noise you can imagine. And all my mates laughed.

To do:



- The passage is from the Old Testament (Eccles. 3:1–9). (The song ‘Turn Turn Turn’ recorded by The Byrds is based on this passage.) It continues:

*A time to mourn and a time to dance;
A time to cast away stones and a time to gather stones together;
A time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing;
A time to get and a time to lose;
A time to keep and a time to cast away;
A time to rend and a time to sew;
A time to keep silence and a time to speak;
A time to love and a time to hate;
A time of war and a time of peace.*

■ Discuss what you could add:

- ◆ A time to be stupid, a time to be serious.
- ◆ A time for playing football, a time for helping.
- ◆ A time for thinking about myself, a time for thinking about other people.

■ Write and draw your own version of the verse from Ecclesiastes.

- Discuss why it is important for us to develop a sense of occasion; for example, to consider the feelings of others and the impact of our actions on them.



Take it further:

Rewrite the story from the point of view of another pupil, but this time imagine that the boy did make a stupid noise.



God for me means the essential goodness that I seek in every human being I meet. Sadly sometimes that goodness has been overlaid by pain and hurt, leading to anger and bitterness, but it is still there. Developing deep connection with, and between, other human beings is my spiritual path.

Belinda Hopkins



A Boy Ate a Chocolate Biscuit



A boy ate a chocolate biscuit. When the boy ate too much his mother said, 'You are going to turn into a chocolate biscuit.' So he went upstairs and he went inside the bedroom. And when he ate it he turned into a chocolate biscuit. When he woke up he was still a chocolate biscuit and when he tried to go to school he said to his mum, 'Mum my jacket won't go on.'

Story by Abdullah, aged 5



Illustration by Sebastian, aged 5

‘Spiritual intelligence’ is the innate ability that all children have to find greater wonder and purpose through the lives that they are already leading. Natural curiosity, a sense of playfulness and fun, the urge to question – these are the resources that all children possess and can use to explore more deeply who they are and what their existence can mean to them.

A Moon On Water is a workbook of practical ideas and activities that can be applied in a range of contexts across the curriculum: as a basis for philosophical enquiry, exploring feelings and enhancing emotional resourcefulness; and for adding the dimension of values to the subjects and knowledge that children study. In short the book seeks to show children how to connect ‘who they are with what they do, with why they are here’.

“If you’ve struggled to find a practical and inspiring resource that welcomes all to adventure into the heart of life, you can now relax! *A Moon on Water* is a book that helps us to access the creative wisdom of the past so that we may explore the present in fresh and meaningful ways; “education” without that is nothing more than schooling.”

Will Ord, Education Consultant

“This is a rare and compelling book, one that consistently demonstrates a profound respect for the intelligence and spiritual lives of children, and those who teach them. Story after story takes us into the larger dimensions of life, and the questions that need to be asked but which can never be answered. I found myself wanting to engage immediately with the children in my life, to share these stories and to explore together where they would lead us. And I know that as teachers guide their students into these wondrous and life-affirming stories, they too will be nourished and awakened.”

Margaret J. Wheatley, author of *Leadership and the New Science* amongst other books

“This is a book of collected wisdom from different times and cultures for modern classrooms. It is bound together with activities to bring alive the stories, proverbs, songs, quotes and ideas in order that children can make sense of themselves and the world in which they live.”

Simon Percival, coach and co-author of *Coaching Emotional Intelligence in the Classroom*, www.simonpercival.com

How to use this book

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Education Skills and Techniques



Crown House Publishing Ltd

www.crownhouse.co.uk www.crownhousepublishing.com

ISBN 978-184590392-3



9 781845 903923