**Impressing others**

Aim

To challenge children that being a better friend is more important than impressing others.

Bible passage

1 Samuel 16:7

Activity

The Banana Game. Give 3 people a banana each and blindfold them. Tell them the winner is the person that eats the banana the quickest. Say go but them take the blindfold off 2 volunteers leaving just one eating the banana.

Talk

Have you noticed that often people lie to impress other people? It happens loads. Its really easy to do things or say things just because other people are doing them. In our game \_\_\_\_\_ ate the banana because he thought the other 2 were doing it when actually they weren’t at all.

Activity

Play a game of ‘Call my bluff’ with the students. Invite volunteers to share these different definitions of uncommon words. Which is the correct meaning? (Answer highlighted.)

1. Antimacassar

**a) The cloth that hangs over the back of an armchair**

b) An ancient sword

c) A popular insect repellent

2. Stafador

a) A breed of dog, native to Spain

**b) An imposter**

c) An ancient city gate on the outskirts of Stafford

3. Sackbut

**a) An ancient trombone-like instrument**

b) Baggy trousers

c) The reinforced cloth at the bottom of a sack

Challenge

Have you ever told a lie because you wanted somebody to think well of you?

Our game was about bluffing: trying to seem more knowledgeable than perhaps we actually are by pretending we know more than we do. Do people do this in real life? It seems so. Recent research shows that 58% of men and 38% of women lie about having seen films when they haven’t in order to impress people. They also tell ‘little white lies’ about which books they’ve read, so they seem more cultured than they are.

The Bible teaches that **‘People look at the outward appearance but the Lord looks at the heart’ (1 Samuel 16:7)**. There is something far more important than ‘looking good’ to other people (whatever that means!). It is the person that we are and are continuing to become. This is called our 'character'. We should seek to become people who impress others by what's on the inside: for example, by making the effort to be a good friend, to be someone who is trustworthy and committed.

Pray