

Age UK Shropshire Telford & Wrekin Assembly: Key Stage 1 & 2

The purpose of this assembly is to encourage children to think about the issues older people face, particularly during winter and to consider what they might be able to do to help.

Please use the plan below and the accompanying PowerPoint slides as you feel appropriate, adding other elements if you so choose, however please refer any request for copies from other schools back to Age UK Shropshire Telford & Wrekin.

Assembly Content

“What I would like to talk about today is how different people feel about winter.”

Slide 1: How do you feel when you wake up, open the curtains and see this.....

Slide 2: Picture of snowy landscape

Encourage pupils to answer the question. Would expect responses such as:

- *Exciting*
- *Playing out*
- *Day off because school might be closed*
- *Snowball fights*
- *Sledging*
- *Building snowmen*

Respond positively - how exciting it is

May get some more negative response – cold, slippery- acknowledge these to come back to in a minute

Slides 3-6: Snow is great fun (Pics of children playing in the snow)

Reflect how much fun it is playing in the snow and that often you do things you don't do much the rest of the time and parents might be off work and able to play etc. Its good family time and its exciting

Are there any less positive aspects, things about the snow which are not so great?

Would expect responses such as:

- *Cold*
- *Slippery*
- *Parents can't get to work*
- *Might crash the car*

Slide 7: How do you think this lady feels when she sees the snow?.....

Slide 8: Photo of older lady looking cold in her home

Expect responses such as:

- *Might fall over*
- *Very cold*

Tell the story of Edna:

“This lady's name is Edna. She is 82 and she lives on her own in a small house. She has central heating in the house but she doesn't like to put it on because she's worried about being able to pay her fuel bills.

When she woke up and saw the snow she was worried because she only has enough milk and bread to last 2 days. She fell over on some ice last year and was poorly for a long time afterwards so she is scared to go outside and won't be able to go to the shop. She thinks if she only has one cup of tea a day she might be able to make the milk last.

When she looks out of the window, she can see the children playing outside and that cheers her up a little because she hasn't spoken to anyone for over a week and with the snow it might be another week or two before she sees anyone again.

She watches the TV all day and then when the light begins to fail and the temperature drops at 3pm she goes to bed to keep warm without using the fire."

"How do you think Edna feels?"

Try to bring out responses such as:

- *Lonely*
- *Scared*
- *Cold*
- *Bored*

Slide 9: What can we do to help?

"Is there anything people can do to help relatives and neighbours who are older when the weather gets cold?"

May get suggestions such as:

- *Go shopping for them*
- *Take them blankets*
- *Go and talk to them*
- *Check if they are ok*

Need to ensure that children are clear this is something they could help their parents to do – NEVER to call on people they don't know themselves.

Slide 10: What Age UK does

"Has anyone heard of Age UK Shropshire Telford & Wrekin?"

"Age UK Shropshire Telford & Wrekin is a charity which works to make life better for older people. They have lots of ways they can help"

Mouse click to get list

Slide 11-12: What else could you do?

"We could visit one of the Day Centres that run every week near our school. Many of the older people would love to have a visit from you – you could sing for them, talk to them, play board/card games with them or do a craft activity"

"You can also tell older people that you know that they can go to Age UK Shropshire Telford & Wrekin for free information and advice about all sorts of problems they might have including how to keep warm in the winter."

Slide 13-14

"We could also take part in Wear it Woolly day in February."

Mouse click to get list which explains what this is.