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| <b>Bradford Libraries and The Story Project</b> | <b>Our Tower</b><br><i>Author Joseph Coelho, Illustrator Richard Johnson</i>  |
| <b>Resources needed</b>                         | <b>Activity A:</b> House templates (provided below), colouring pencils<br><b>Activity B:</b> Access to the playground, clipboards (optional), camera (optional) |

| Aspect  | Time    | Activity  |
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| <b>Ground rules</b>   | 2 mins  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Talk with the class about how to create a safe and open space for everyone to join in the lesson. Some ideas are in the notes of the PPT.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Settle</b><br>    | 3 mins  | <b>Tower and Tree Stretch</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guide children through some simple movements to get them ready for the lesson and calm any big emotions:<br/> Step 1: Stand up straight (eyes closed optional).<br/> Step 2: Slowly lift your arms, stretching them above your head as though you are a strong and tall tower. Take a big deep breath.<br/> Step 3: Lower your arms<br/> Step 4: Sway your body gently from side to side, imaging you are a tree moving in the wind. Take a big deep breath.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Training</b><br>  | 3 mins  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look at the front cover of the book.</li> <li>Use the emotional vocab grid in the PPT</li> <li>Ask children: How do you think the girl in the purple coat is feeling? What makes you think this?</li> <li>Encourage the discussion of new emotional vocab adjectives.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Objective</b><br> | 2 mins  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I can tell you what nature I can see in my community and how nature benefits me</li> <li><i>KS1 classes: Ensure children understand what the word nature means. Definition in Ppt</i></li> </ul>   |
| <b>Read</b><br>    | 15 mins | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>KS1 classes:</i> Start with a short introduction to the story to help support understanding of any abstract themes (a synopsis is provided in the PPT)</li> <li>Share the story with pupils.</li> <li>Use the suggested comprehension questions to develop pupils' understanding of vocabulary, retrieve information, and infer meaning.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>You</b><br>     | 15 mins | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Class discussion:</b> 'Where can we see nature when we live in a city?' Use the prompts on the slides, referring to the images in the book where necessary</li> <li><b>Choose either A or B:</b><br/> <b>Activity A: The nature around my home</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using ideas from the class discussion, ask children to spend a minute or so reflecting on what nature is around their own house.</li> <li>Using the templates provided below, allow each child to select a picture of a house. Children to decorate their pictures with drawings of nature. They may also write them around the image if they prefer.</li> <li>Ask a few members of the class to share their drawings. Talk about how nature makes them feel and what benefits it has on them (prompts in the slide)</li> <li><i>KS2 extension: Watch the short clip about urban habitats in the PPT. Can children think of any other examples of animals that live in cities? Why do they think the adults were so excited to see the badgers? What does this tell you about the impact of nature on our wellbeing. Prompts in the PPT</i></li> </ul> <b>Activity B: Nature hunt!</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss how at the beginning of the story, the children see their tower block as grey and boring. But after their adventure, they realise that there is lots of nature and beauty where they live. They just have to look for it!</li> <li>Take the class outside and ask them to search for examples of nature. Encourage children to find obvious examples e.g. flowerbeds, grass etc as well as hidden examples e.g. weeds growing in cracks of buildings, moss on rocks, minibeasts, birds perched on roofs etc. Use prompts from the class discussion to help. Most unusual find wins!</li> <li>Ask the children what affect nature has on their school environment? Would it be as nice if there was no nature in their playground? What do they like about the nature they have seen?</li> <li><i>Optional: Take clipboards or a camera with you to let the children record what they have found.</i></li> </ul> </li> </ol> |



