

# JENNY MOSLEY'S CIRCLE TIME STARTER PACK

Welcome to Jenny Mosley's Circle Time Starter Pack!

The Circle Time Starter Pack (also known as the "Kitbag of Power" but now updated and improved), contains everything you need to start holding your own class Circle Times straight away. When practised with skill and energy, the forum of Circle Time is an amazingly powerful and transformational strategy that anyone can use with their primary-aged class. The point is to have faith in the innate wisdom of children and in allowing that wisdom to flow!

## CIRCLE TIME CAN BE USED FOR:

- mixing up the whole class so that children learn to work with, and get on with, other children;
- engaging children in fun activities to warm up the group and help to build a great community feel within the classroom;
- introducing school-relevant topics like classroom rules, making and keeping friendships and getting on well in the Dining Hall and playground;
- having a weekly session where everyone has a voice, everyone can see every other person in the group and everyone can have fun and engage in educational activities;
- practising basic learning skills like looking, thinking, listening, speaking and concentrating;
- promoting more complex skills like negotiation, problem-solving, anti-bullying and friendship strategies.

## HOW CAN THE CIRCLE TIME STARTER PACK HELP WITH CIRCLE TIME?

The Circle Time Starter Pack contains all you need to get started with holding regular Circle Times! In the Pack is a great introductory Circle Time book-Step-by-Step Guide to Circle Time – which will give you the knowledge to introduce Circle Time, the Circle Time Rules that make Circle Time safe for everyone and the Five Steps of Circle Time to provide a sequence to follow for the games and activities. There are many themed session plans to help you get started. For practitioners or classes who are new to Circle Time, it's easy to make a quick start - just focus at first on the Five Skills for learning or a Three Step session plan for Circle Time or if in doubt, just start playing some of the Circle Time games with the children in a circle and they will love it. This is all explained in the book!

The Pack is geared towards making Circle Times more exciting and fun for the children. They never know what you are going to pull out of your bag! You may pull out the gold fabric to become a magic cape for someone to wear in a game, or a puppet to start a discussion about what to do if you have nobody to play with in the playground. The 5 Skills booklets and stickers can be used to introduce activities to practice very basic but very necessary skills for learning (and for life!). The rainstick and the rainstick booklet will lift everyone off to magical beaches with the sea lapping on the shores to calm the class down and put a smile on everyone's faces. The Pack will help you provide hours of educational and developmental fun for your class.

## WHAT'S IN THE CIRCLE TIME STARTER PACK?

### Cotton Bag

A cotton bag to keep all your Circle Time resources together ready for your Circle Time session. The bag also adds a little mystery and the children don't quite know what you will 'pull out of the bag' next!

### 'Step-by-Step Guide to Circle Time' by Jenny Mosley

This book brings great Circle Time information and ideas for teachers including:

- Notes on the Quality Circle Time model and the 5 Steps of Circle Time.
- Getting ready for Circle Time and Getting to know the model.
- Many practical Circle Time session plans based around useful themes.

## **Golden Fabric**

This can be used to glamorise any activity – it could be your magic cape, a pretend picnic rug, or a magic flying carpet! It can cover up an object waiting to be guessed or used for a big ‘reveal’ of a shy puppet!

## **Cat Puppet and Dog Puppet**

These two soft, lovable puppets will appeal to the whole class, even those who can be hardest to reach. Cute and life-like, children can't wait to join in the discussion to help these characters or discuss class issues with them. Let the puppets do the work – all they need is a good script!

## **Puppets Scripts Booklet**

Puppets can be such fun and this little booklet of scripts will help give you great confidence! You can change the names and details of the scripts and just read from the book which can be on your lap! The children will be so busy listening to the puppet they won't worry about where the booklet is!

## **Quality Circle Time in Action DVD**

See Quality Circle Time for yourself in this DVD where Jenny Mosley introduces and demonstrates two sessions of Circle Time with unrehearsed Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 children. Brilliant for getting in the swing of Circle Time, for showing other teachers or for your own practice.

## **Jenny Mosley's Small Books of the 5 Skills Series**

Communication starts with a few basic skills that many children benefit from practising. Each of these 5 books contains superb games and activities to promote the 5 Skills that are essential for learning – thinking, looking, listening, speaking and concentrating. Each game or activity also has follow-up activities to help embed the learnt skill.

## **5 Skills Stickers**

Colourful, fun and to the point, these stickers are used for positively reinforcing the 5 Skills – thinking, looking, listening, speaking and concentrating - when they are used well by children.

## Rainstick and Rainstick Booklet

Children love the soothing sounds of a rainstick which can be used to sharpen the senses, hone the listening skills and provide a backdrop to a selection of calming relaxation meditations – which children tell us they love.

## Kit Bag Booklet

This great little book of Kit Bag activities will help make your Circle Times great fun!

## “Talking” Egg

Based on the Native American “talking stick”, the egg means it is the holder’s chance to speak while everyone else listens silently. The egg is only used during Step 2 of Circle Time when the whole class engages in a round. Holding the egg gives quieter children a chance to have a space to speak. As a bonus, these eggs are hand-painted, lacquered and gorgeous to hold in little hands!

