

Teachers brief notes and themes for Happy Feet

- Mumble is born **different** to other baby Emperor Penguins. He is happy with his feet, loves to dance, but cannot sing.
- Emperor Penguins who cannot sing are doomed to be **alone** because they cannot sing **their heartsong** to attract a mate.
- What makes Mumble happy is dancing- that is when he feels free and truly himself.
- Does not do well at school because he cannot sing and imagines what the world far beyond the ice is like.
- Elders in Penguin Tribe think Mumble is leading other penguins **astray** with his hippety hop- he was always a 'bad egg' and is the **victim** of their **disapproval** and blamed because of his **difference**.
- When it is discovered that his father Memphis dropped the egg, the belief is confirmed that somehow Mumble is cracked and mad and responsible, because of his difference, for the fish famine and troubles of the penguins.
- He is **excluded** and banished from the group for being different and although sad, is **courageous** and determined to find the **aliens** who are stealing the fish.
- Meets some Mexican penguins with whom he makes **friends** and who adore his dancing- they think the 'Big Guy' is cool, follow him and lead him to their Guru, called 'Loveless'.
- Loveless wears a plastic necklace and claims to have met 'mystic beings' which Mumble discovers not to be true. Later in the film, Mumble risks his own life to save Loveless.
- Mumble is determined to find out who is stealing the fish from their waters and to appeal to **'their better nature'**.
- He sets off on an epic adventure, over the oceans far away from his home and ends up exhausted on a beach where he is found and taken to a zoo.
- In the zoo he sees the aliens for the first time close up, and agrees that they are like penguins without feathers, with 'fat flabby faces'.
- There (zoo) despite getting fed, he gets **despondent** after a dream where he sees his parents and tries to offer them fish, then they dissolve in front of him.
- Mumble saves the day with his dancing feet when he is captured and in the zoo and a little girl taps on the glass to attract his attention. He dances spontaneously for her and others are amazed and captivated by the Penguin who dances. He makes the daily and TV news.
- Mumble the **exile** returns to his tribe with a **tracking device** on his back and the penguins are amazed to see him, having feared him dead.
- Again the Chief accuses Mumble of being **treacherous**, for bringing the aliens to their land. However Mumble tells all the Penguins to dance and there is fun and celebration
- He teaches them to dance for the human beings who are tracking him, flying to the ice, in a helicopter. They are delighted to see the dancing penguins and make a film that hits the world news and headlines.
- Politicians get involved and make decisions to stop fishing in the penguins waters.
- Now **the hero** returned, Mumble finds that his father Memphis has blamed himself for allowing his son to be banished. He teaches his father to dance and to find his music and song again.
- There is feasting and celebration as the waters are full of fish and Mumble declares his love for Gloria who accepts his signature feet song.

Key Stage 1

Links to QCA Schemes of Work in PSHE:

- 1) Developing confidence and responsibility and making the most of their abilities; 1a,1b
- 4) Developing good relationships and respecting the differences between people; 4a,c,d,e

Key Stage 2

PSHE: QCA- Developing good relationships and respecting the differences between people; 4:a, b, d, e, by exploring differences, stereotyping and understanding that the differences between people are related to race, culture, religion, ethnicity, diversity, gender and disability

SEAL: Say No to Bullying

Foundation and KS1: Teachers could have a huge outline of an Emperor Penguin ready for the children and speech bubbles for them to fill in. See <http://www.cker.com/clipart-11905.html> for penguin clip art, which is royalty free

For example take the descriptors and the I statements from SEAL and apply them where appropriate to Happy Feet (Mumble) and select appropriate SEAL activities where activities can be adapted to link to the themes

Red: Foundation Stage – the focus is on belonging and celebrating similarities and differences

- How is Mumble different from the other penguins, and how he is special?
- Talk about ways in which the other penguins were unkind to Mumble, especially the Chief?
- Which friends did Mumble have and how were they kind to him?
- How are you special and what are you proud of in yourself?
- How are you different from your friends?

Blue: Years 1 & 2 – the focus is on those being bullied

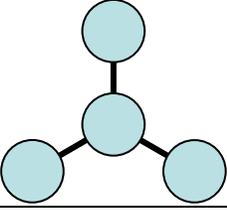
- How is Mumble the same and different from his family and friends?
- How was Happy Feet bullied and how did he feel?
- How do you think Mumble and his family felt when he was banished from the tribe?
- In which ways are you the same and different from your friends?
- Talk about the ways that you are proud to be different?

Yellow: Years 3&4- a focus on witnesses and watching bullying

- What do you think Mumble, Memphis his father and Norma Jean his mother felt about him being different?
- What did the other penguins do when Mumble was excluded?
- Witnesses of unkindness can make things better or worse by what they do. What could the penguins have done differently to stop Mumble from being excluded?
- Why is it sometimes difficult to stand up for people who are treated badly?

Green: Years 5&6- a focus on bullying behaviour

- What power did the Elder Penguin have over the other penguins and how did his power affect Mumble?
- Why was Mumble treated differently from the other penguins?
- How did Mumble overcome his exclusion to become a hero?
- How would you stop people from being unkind to each other? In groups create a charter for treating people with respect and kindness

<p>Draw a self portrait and write about yourself showing how you are special</p>	 <p>Add more shapes to get as many adjectives from A -Z</p>	<p>Use an Adjective Diagram putting Happy Feet in the middle to describe him. Use all the adjectives you come up with in separate sentences</p> <p>Design and make a pop up book to tell the story about Happy feet in your own words</p>	<p>Create a belonging wall or quilt in the classroom Give each child an outline of a tile to design with key words to show how they belong</p>												
<p>'Cool to be Kind' The 'Big Guy' as the small penguins called Mumble was cool. Think of all the ways you and your friends can be cool to be kind and make kindness posters in groups</p>	<p>Music opportunity</p> <p>1)Happy feet could not sing but his heart song was dancing. Create your heartsong from what you are good at and place these in illustrated or painted heart shapes</p> <p>2)Explore some of the songs in Happy Feet and find the words on the computer. Use these songs to inspire you to write one on belonging or difference</p> <p>Tell Me Something Good</p> <p>Only You Can Make this World Feel Right</p> <p>I speak just about Love</p>	<p>Find someone who – and after work in groups of 4 to find similarities and differences</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="646 653 1213 1591"> <tr> <td data-bbox="646 653 813 884">Is born in the same month as you</td> <td data-bbox="813 653 998 884">Has the same number of brothers and sisters as you</td> <td data-bbox="998 653 1213 884">Likes music</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="646 884 813 1146">Is the same height as you</td> <td data-bbox="813 884 998 1146">Is older than you</td> <td data-bbox="998 884 1213 1146">Has the same favourite sport as you</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="646 1146 813 1373">Has been to another country</td> <td data-bbox="813 1146 998 1373">Likes the same subjects as you</td> <td data-bbox="998 1146 1213 1373">Is good at something different from you</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="646 1373 813 1591">Who has a pet</td> <td data-bbox="813 1373 998 1591">Who ate similar things for breakfast as you</td> <td data-bbox="998 1373 1213 1591">With a similar colour hair to you</td> </tr> </table>	Is born in the same month as you	Has the same number of brothers and sisters as you	Likes music	Is the same height as you	Is older than you	Has the same favourite sport as you	Has been to another country	Likes the same subjects as you	Is good at something different from you	Who has a pet	Who ate similar things for breakfast as you	With a similar colour hair to you	<p>Draw around your hands and choose one of the colours of the rainbow to colour it red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet, white, black</p> <p>ask everyone to write something on your hand about you</p> <p>Make a display of rainbow hands in a rainbow shape for the Classroom to show being different and belonging together</p>
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