

TEACHER NOTES

Religious Education (English Crossover)

Reading Bible Stories: *Balaam's Donkey*



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Contextual Summary

This is an R.E. resource for key stages 2 and 3 that engages students with donkeys at the Sanctuary and how their gentle and forgiving nature is reflected in this bible story.

The tasks enable them to demonstrate their understanding of the Bible story *Balaam's Donkey*. Students are asked to put the story into the correct sequence after they have cut the jumbled the story components (there is also a missing sentence version for students in lower key stage 2).

The task is designed to appeal to students in key stages 2 & 3, and can be completed before, during or after the students' visit to the Donkey Sanctuary.

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This is a simple, peripheral resource that can be completed before, during or after the students' visit to the Donkey Sanctuary on the Isle of Wight.

The tasks can be integrated into lessons at any stage throughout the academic year where appropriate to teachers' schemes of work in this subject. It could perhaps link with an assembly. There are two pictures depicting this story that could be projected on to the board for a plenary discussions about how much of the story is shown in the picture, which part, etc. Links for these can be found at www.edudest.co.uk/followup - type in the document number (10425).

It is anticipated that students will have an enriched experience as they will be reflecting on their school visit activities in a relevant way, that links to their wider studies.

Ability Levels

This resource is suitable for key stages 2 and 3. There are 3 variants: one mixed ability resource for lower key stage 2, one mixed ability resource for upper key stage 2 and one mixed ability resource for the lower years of key stage 3.

Teachers could adapt the resource for students in higher year groups if they wish, by adding more cards, or asking more questions of the text. They could use a more detailed version of the story as required.

Key skills practised in this unit:

- ▶ Identifying and placing story elements in their chronological order
- ▶ Sequencing skills
- ▶ Demonstrating understanding of a Bible story.

Relationship to Curriculum

The above skills relate to those suggested as per the DfE non-statutory guidance, for key stages 2 & 3 for R.E.

SUBJECT

R.E.

UNIT

Religious Texts

OPPORTUNITIES FOR USE

- ✓ Pre-Visit
- ✓ On-Site Activity
- ✓ Post-Visit



PERIPHERAL TASK

CURRICULUM / SYLLABUS

- ✓ As per non-statutory guidance - DfE 2010 onwards

Applies to Resource numbered:

1	0	4	2	5	1
1	0	4	2	5	2
1	0	4	2	5	3

Learning Opportunities

At any stage, students could complete the R.E. resource task linked to this document: *Donkey Tales: Balaam's Donkey!*

Resource ID: **104251** (KS2L mixed ability)

104252 (KS2U mixed ability)

104253 (KS3 mixed ability)

Pre-Visit

- ▶ The task could be completed in class prior to the trip so students have the story in mind when they visit the Isle of Wight Donkey Sanctuary.

Post Visit

- ▶ Students may complete the resource on their return to school, after seeing the donkeys and becoming

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- ▶ Students are developing their sequencing skills.
- ▶ They are demonstrating their understanding of a well-known Bible story.
- ▶ They are linking their Sanctuary visit to their studies in R.E. and religious texts.

Learning Outcomes

- ✓ Students will have demonstrated that they can identify the stages of a story.
- ✓ Students will have shown their understanding by placing cards or sentences in the correct sequence.

Possible follow-up tasks:

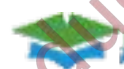
In addition to the task detailed, students could also:

- ▶ Complete a project on famous religious stories from various other religions
- ▶ Write a story using this tale as inspiration
- ▶ Discuss ideas for - and write moral tales inspired by donkeys seen at the Isle of Wight Donkey Sanctuary.

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- ▶ Hundreds more resources
- ▶ Search by age, subject, exam board
- ▶ Virtual venue tours and maps
- ▶ Bespoke online itinerary builder
- ▶ Risk assessments
- ▶ Travel and accommodation





Balaam's Donkey

This story comes from the Book of Numbers chapters 22 to 24

It is a story that tells how God protected the Israelites with the help of a donkey

1. Balak was king of the Moabites. The Israelites lived near and were his enemies. (G)
2. Balak asked a fortune teller called Balaam to put a curse on the Israelites, so he could beat them in battle and take their land. (E)
3. God spoke to Balaam and told him not to curse the Israelites but to go with Balak anyway. (B)
4. Balaam got on his donkey to ride her to the top of a mountain, where he would be able to see the

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5. As Balaam rode his donkey, God sent an angel to stand in the road. (M)

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6. Only the donkey saw the angel and she turned into a field. Balaam beat the donkey for not doing what she was told. (K)
7. Balaam again tried to ride the donkey to the top of the mountain and again the angel stood in the path. (A)
8. The donkey squeezed past the angel and crushed Balaam's foot against a wall. (D)
9. Balaam tried to ride his donkey to the top of the hill a third time and again God sent an angel. (O)
10. This time the path was narrow so the donkey just sat down and would not move, even when it was beaten. (L)
11. God gave the donkey the power of speech to ask why Balaam beat her. (N)
12. Balaam replied to the donkey it was because she did not obey him. (J)
13. God then revealed himself to Balaam and he begged God to forgive him. (C)
14. Finally Balaam got to the top of the mountain and gave the Israelites God's blessing and protection. (H)
15. Balak was very angry with Balaam and would have hit him, but Balaam had followed God and was safe. (F)