Buddhist community activity sheets—teacher's notes

The Sangha around the World worksheet

The video (https://youtu.be/1hYcxTX2ApE) shows members of the Buddhist Sangha from around the world. Recap the examples with the children:



- A monk with his yellow robe and alms bowl
- Buddhist householders, or lay followers, who support the monks
- Tibetan monks in Ladakh
- A Japanese monk
- Ordained Buddhist English women
- Thubten, the trainee boy monk in Ladakh

Discuss their similarities and differences. What would they all have in common?

My circle of friends worksheet

Good friendships are important to human happiness and wellbeing. Children discuss in small groups:



- Why it is good to have friends
- What it might be like not to have friends
- What sort of person makes a good friend
- How good friends help each other

After discussing friendship, the children draw their friends in the circle. They give each of them a speech bubble saying:



- Who they are
- What they like doing together
- How they help each other

After discussion the children read the descriptive sentences.

Then they use the information to fill in the speech bubbles for each member of the Sangha.

Video Sequence - Thubten in Ladakh

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1hYcxTX2ApE ('Thubten's Day' sequence runs from 7:57 to 12:27)

In several Buddhist traditions, it is common for young boys, or girls, to spend some time in a monastery, living there and being educated by the monks or nuns. They go home to visit their parents from time to time.

Thubten's Day worksheet

Recap with the children the video sequence of a day in the life of the trainee boy monk.

Discuss:

- The events in his day.
- What might it be like to live like Thubten?
- What might they have liked or disliked about his day?



After discussion the children complete the sequence "Thubten's Day" with words and pictures.

My Day worksheet

Discuss with the children the sequence of events in their day. What are the similarities and differences between Thubten's life and theirs;

- Clothes
- School
- Who they live with
- Food
- Free time
- Jobs they might do

After discussion, the children write a letter to Thubten telling him about their day.

