

I am UNIQUE (me)

Session Length	30 minutes
Introduction	<p>This session builds on the Unit 1 Gospel reflections on Jesus welcoming little children to Him, helping pupils to remember that they're all special because they are made and loved by God. Children will be encouraged to notice similarities and celebrate differences between fictional people and each other as things that make us unique and special. They will start learning a song to reinforce learning; this song will be added to in each session of this Unit.</p> <p>NB. The images on slides 3 and 5 are illustrations from our stand alone resource 'Kester's Adventures', an allegorical story about a boy called Kester who discovers that he was handmade with a needle and thread by his maker Abraham. You might like to explore the KS1 part of this resource alongside this Module (see link on website).</p>
Learning Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To learn that we are unique, with individual gifts, talents and skills.
Success Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children will engage with teacher-led questions and paired interactions.• Children will be given the opportunity to reflect on what makes them unique and special through an activity called 'My Special Box'.• Children will join in with learning the chorus of the song, 'Touch Your Knees, Touch Your Toes'.
Resource Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teacher Notes (this document)• Online Presentation• Appendix 1 – My Special Box

Class Discussion: We are special because we are created and loved by God

Slide 1

Ask pupils what they remember about the Gospel account of Jesus welcoming the little children. You might like to use these questions to prompt answers:

- Who tried to stop the little children coming to Jesus?
- What did Jesus say?
- When the children were with Jesus, what did He do?

Slide 2

Read aloud the text on the slide (copied below):

Child: "But am I special? Am I unique?"

Jesus: "Every person God makes is different. Different colours, different talents, different favourite things. But you are God's child. My Father, God, made YOU. And He only made one of you! And that is what makes you special."

Then discuss with children what they think it means for them and God, e.g. "God made us each individually - there's only one me!", "We're all different and that is what God wanted", "what makes us special is that God made us and loves us."

Class Discussion: Notice similarities and celebrate differences

Slide 3

Ask children to look at the illustration on screen and spot the **similarities** that the people have. (E.g. two legs, two arms, a head, mouth, two ears)

Then ask children to spot things that make the people in the picture unique – their **differences**. (E.g. facial expressions, colour, height, body shape)

Slide 4

What makes us different?

Explain that just like the people on the slide, we have things that are the same as each other, and things that are different from each other.

Ask children what **similarities we have**, then name what kind of **differences we have**, and then **click to reveal** the list below to see how many they thought of!

- Eye colour
- Hair colour
- Height
- Body shape

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skin colour • Age • Boys/Girls • Clothes <p>Ask children to work in pairs to find one similarity and one difference with the person sitting next to them. Share some of these back to the class.</p> <p>Explain that these differences have all been about the way we look, but we have other differences that we might not be able to see. Click to reveal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language spoken/accent • Type of family • Gifts and talents • Favourite things
<p>Slide 5</p>	<p>Invite pupils to look at the images of the characters on screen and guess what makes them special or unique, e.g. <i>the police officer, the ringmaster and the mother all have a different type of job, one child likes cakes, another likes playing on the trampoline, etc.</i></p> <p>Ask children if they like some of the same things as these people? Which ones? Explain that sometimes we enjoy the same things as each other and sometimes we like different things!</p> <p>Invite children to discuss in pairs something that makes them special or unique. Share some of these back to the class. For older children, you could ask them to share back about their partner, e.g. <i>“Laura is special because she is really good at skipping.”</i></p> <p>Extension. Ask the following discussion questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have you ever felt really special? What was it that made you feel that? • Has there ever been a time when you have been made to feel different? How did it make you feel? What could you try to remember that might help?
<p>Independent Activity: My Special Box</p>	
<p>Slide 6</p>	<p>Ask the children what the world would be like if everyone was the same? (e.g. <i>boring!</i>) Our differences make us unique and make the world interesting!</p> <p>Explain the activity: to create a special box all about you! Using Appendix 1 – My Special Box, children should write or draw pictures of things that make them special. Reiterate that some of the things in their box might be</p>

the same as other people's (e.g. lots of people like eating cake!) and some things will be different. Use the questions on the screen as inspiration:

- What would you put in a special box all about you?
- What's your favourite animal or favourite food?
- What do you like doing?

You might like to play music while children are completing this task.

Class Song: 'Touch Your Knees, Touch Your Toes'

Slide 7

Ask children to share back some of the contents of their special boxes. These could be put up on display or sent home to include them in their child's learning during this unit.

Explain that they will be learning a song as a class and that today they will be learning the chorus. **The chorus is all about how we are made by God to be special and unique, with similarities and differences, and individual gifts, talents and skills.**