



Theme: Being brave

Book: **The Gruffalo** by Julia Donaldson

Theme Introduction:

'The Gruffalo' by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler. In this story we see a cunning little mouse, who uses quick thinking to get him out of tricky situations. He was able to outsmart all the other animals in the wood and convince even the scariest of creatures that he is in fact scarier than them.

In the Bible we see Jesus who on the surface looks like an ordinary, normal man. He isn't big and strong. He isn't rich or a bully but even monsters are scared of Him. Waves and storms obey His command. The Bible says that Jesus has equipped Christians to be brave to take on the most difficult tasks in life.

Theme exploration:

That mouse was very clever, wasn't he? He was also very brave. Some may think he was silly and could easily have ended up as a snack for any of the animals. God has made you: you are just as clever as the mouse in this story. We can be just as brave, but we also need to make sure that we don't make decisions that are silly rather than brave.

Free play suggestion:

Link with book:

- Gruffalo word matching sheet
- Print pictures of the animals in the story and hide them around the room.



I wonder which animal is your favourite.
I wonder which animal you would like to meet - why?

Craft ideas:

Link with book:

- Make Gruffalo masks with paper plates
<https://www.gluedtomycraftsblog.com/2015/04/paper-plate-gruffalo-kid-craft.html>

Link to theme:

- Make a shield and write on it things that you need to be brave about.



I wonder when you have been brave.
I wonder when you have been silly.

Faith in action: Find ways to be brave this week and tell someone when you have been. Tell someone about when you did something silly this

Reflection on last week's faith in action, with the families.

What was last week's action?

How did that make you feel?

Why did that make a difference?



Prayer time

Loving God, help our families to know that with your help they can do anything. Help them to not let cynicism or doubt or fear hold them back from you. Amen.

Inspiration ...

Biblical References:

Luke 8:22-25 Jesus calms the storm

John 11:38-43 Jesus raises Lazarus

Mark 5:1-18 Jesus restores a man

• SNACK TIME

Mini pancakes with blueberries or chocolate dots.
Filled celery (soft cheese) to look like a snake.

• SONGS

Use musical instruments

'The Gruffalo'

'A hunting we will go'

If you're happy and you know it!

Additional resources:

A re-telling of the story on Youtube

<https://youtu.be/LshGQmaJc9I>

Gruffalo word matching sheet