

ENHANCING THE TEACHING OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION



SHARING OF RESOURCES/IDEAS





CONFIRMATION

Jesus instituted a special sacrament so that all his followers could receive the special strength of the Holy Spirit.

Because most early Christian converts were adults, Confirmation was celebrated in the same ceremony as Baptism.

Despite its separation from Baptism over time, there is still a very strong link to Baptism in the Rite of Confirmation.





In the Bible, a person's name often conveyed a sense of who the person was, as well as identifying them in the community.

Their name conveyed the truth of the person.

Jesus' name in Hebrew is Yeshua/Joshua, which means, one who saves.

Among other things, the name linked Jesus to the great hero who led people to the promised land after the death of Moses.





Like Baptism, God never withdraws the
graces of Confirmation.

The relationship established with God is
permanent.

The person is sealed with the gift of the
Holy Spirit.

Like Baptism, the sacrament is never
celebrated a second time.





The gifts of the Holy Spirit given through the sacrament of Confirmation need to be developed.

We need to:

† Nourish them by regularly receiving Jesus in Holy Communion

† draw on them by praying each day

† use them to try and live as Jesus taught





Confirmed people benefit as they respond to the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

The fruits of the Holy Spirit that help Christians in their daily living are:

Love

Joy

Peace

Patience

Kindness

Goodness

Trustfulness

Gentleness

Self-control





The Rite of Confirmation has five steps.

- Presentation of the Candidates
- Homily or instruction
- Renewal of Baptismal promises
- The laying on of hands
- The anointing with chrism and the sign of peace





BAPTISMAL PROMISES

The six questions of the baptismal promises –

Celebrant: Do you reject Satan?

Response: I do.

Celebrant: And all his works?

Response: I do.

Celebrant: And all his empty promises?

Response: I do.

Celebrant: Do you believe in God, the Father
almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

Response: I do.





Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?

Response: I do.

Celebrant: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

Response: I do.





CONFIRMATION CEREMONY

The celebrant:

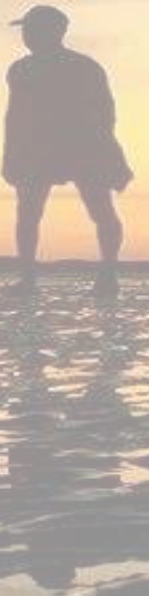
- ◇ lays his hand on the head of the candidate
- ◇ anoints the candidate's forehead by marking a cross with the sacred oil called 'Chrism'
- ◇ proclaims the words: 'Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.'





Each of these actions has special meaning ~

- ◇ laying on of hands on the candidate's head to continue the practice of the Apostles [e.g. Acts 8:15–17; 19:5–6; Hebrews 6:2]
- ◇ anointing with the oil of Chrism because the candidate is being 'anointed' or 'filled' with the Holy Spirit, as were the Apostles at Pentecost, the use of Chrism, because it is the sacred oil of consecration to God. Chrism is – made of olive oil and the perfume, balsam, following the instructions God gave first to Moses about how consecration oil must be mixed [Exodus 30:22–25] consecrated by the Bishop each year during Holy Week
- ◇ marking with the Sign of the Cross
 - because a confirmed person belongs to Christ
 - because the confirmed person receives the spiritual seal of Christ.





EFFECTS OF CONFIRMATION

(CCC 1302-3)

Confirmation:

- increases and deepens baptismal grace
- ◇ enables people to call God, Father (Abba)
- ◇ unites people more firmly to Christ
- ◇ increases the gift of the Holy Spirit
- ◇ renders our bond with Church more perfect
- ◇ gives people the special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend by word and action as true witnesses of Christ.





'Confirmation... gives us a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the faith by word and action as true witnesses of Christ, to confess the name of Christ boldly, and never to be ashamed of the Cross... .'

– Catechism 1303





WORDS, SYMBOLS, ACTIONS

WORDS:

"Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit" as the candidate is anointed with the oil of chrism.

"I do" – the response to the renewal of the Baptismal promises.

SYMBOLS:

Bishop or delegate – a link to the Pentecost story and the apostles going out to spread the Good News.

Sponsor/Godparent – a member of the community of believers into which the candidates are being initiated. Is an example and support to the confirmed.

The name – a link to Baptism and related to identity and purpose in life.

Oil of Chrism – symbol of the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

Dove – Holy Spirit.

ACTIONS:

Laying on of hands – the receiving of the Holy Spirit.

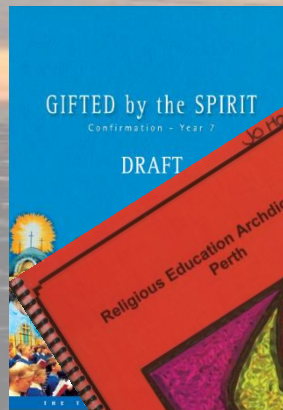
Anointing – with oil of chrism. An ancient action of healing and giving of strength.

Connection with Jesus – the anointed one of God.



THE PROGRAM

- ◇ 8 units in one year
- ◇ Distribution of time - working out how to plan for the year
- ◇ 5week program - integrating the program with other learning areas
- ◇ Including the resource in planning



ORGANISING THE PROGRAM

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SACRAMENTAL RETREATS

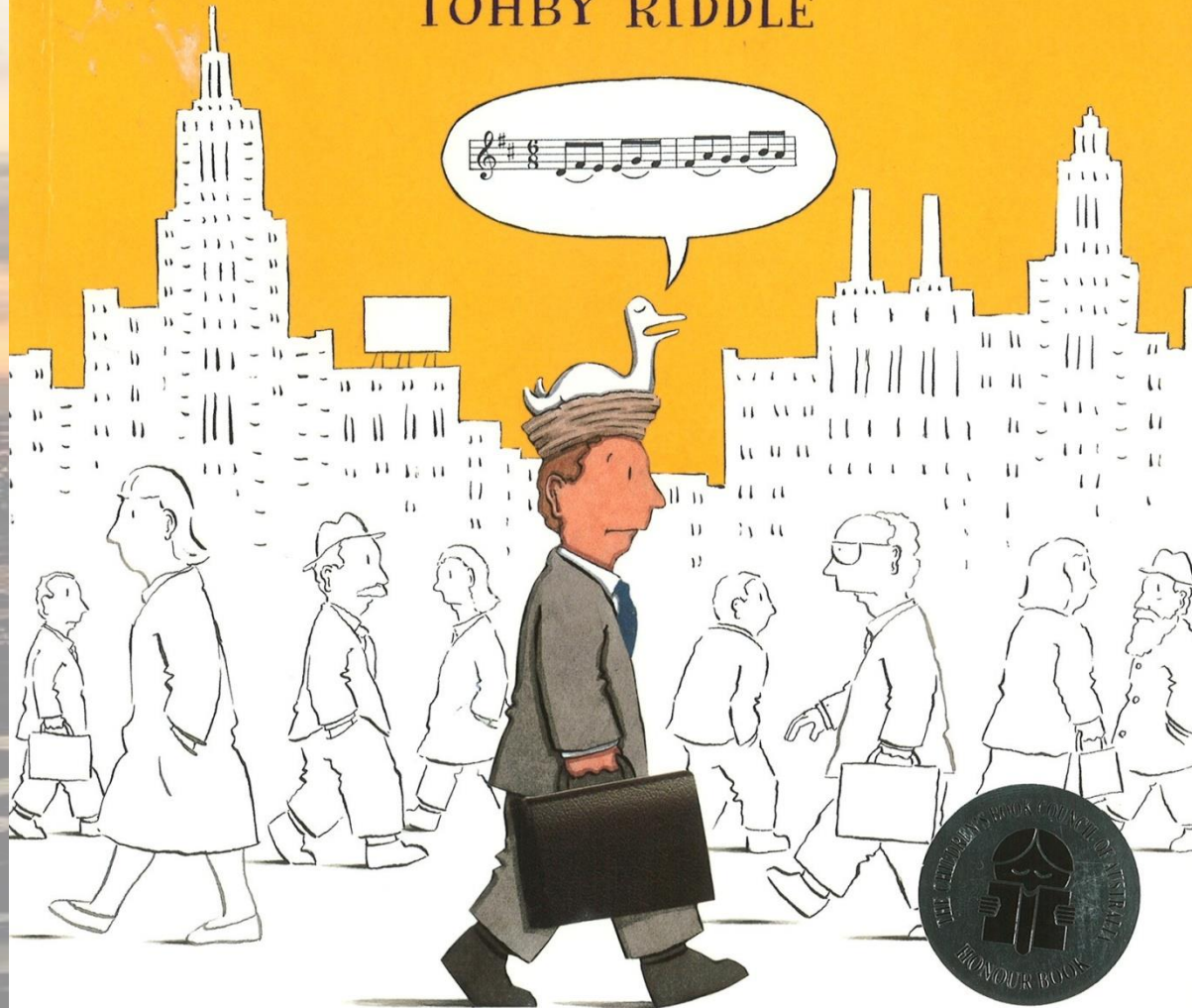


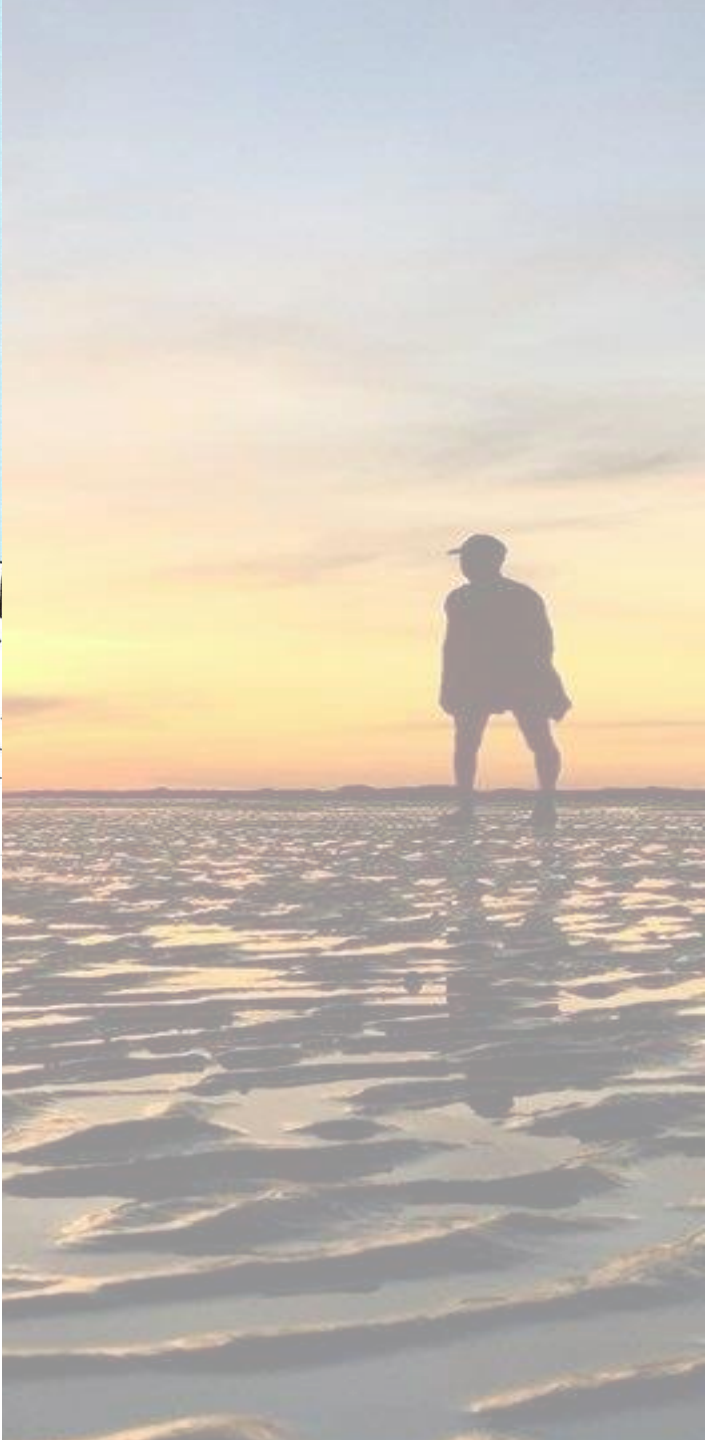
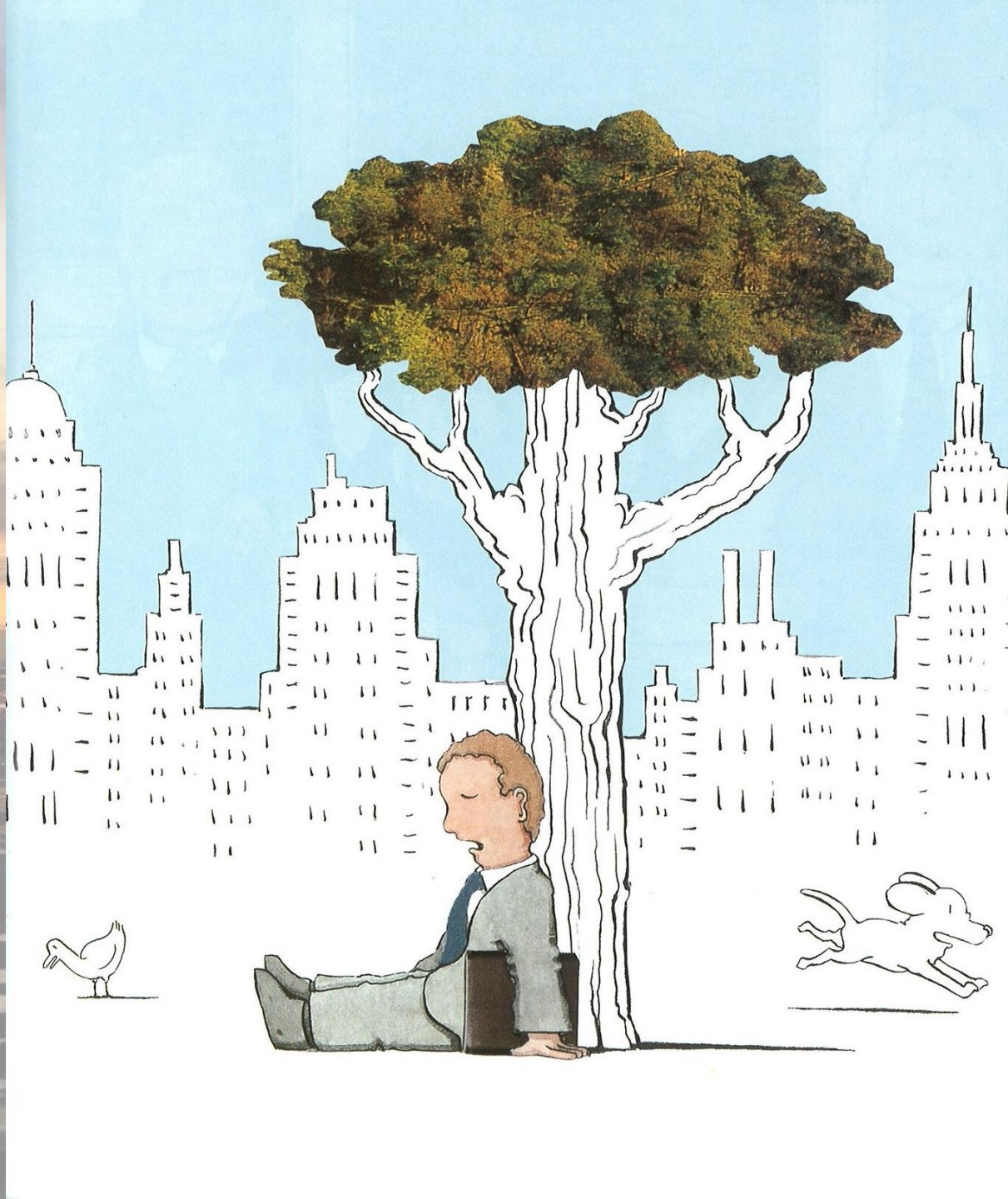
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The SINGING HAT

TOHBY RIDDLE











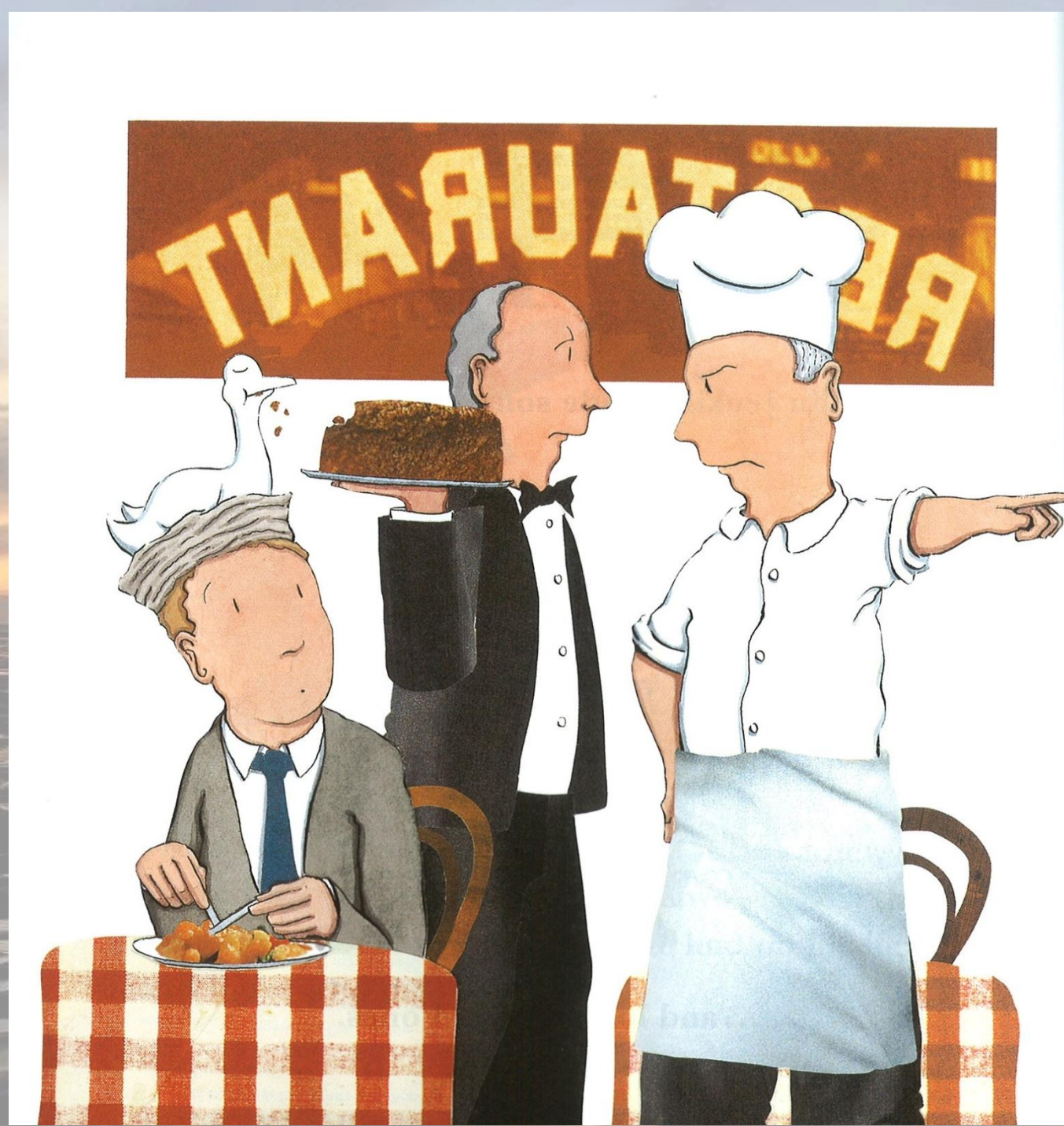


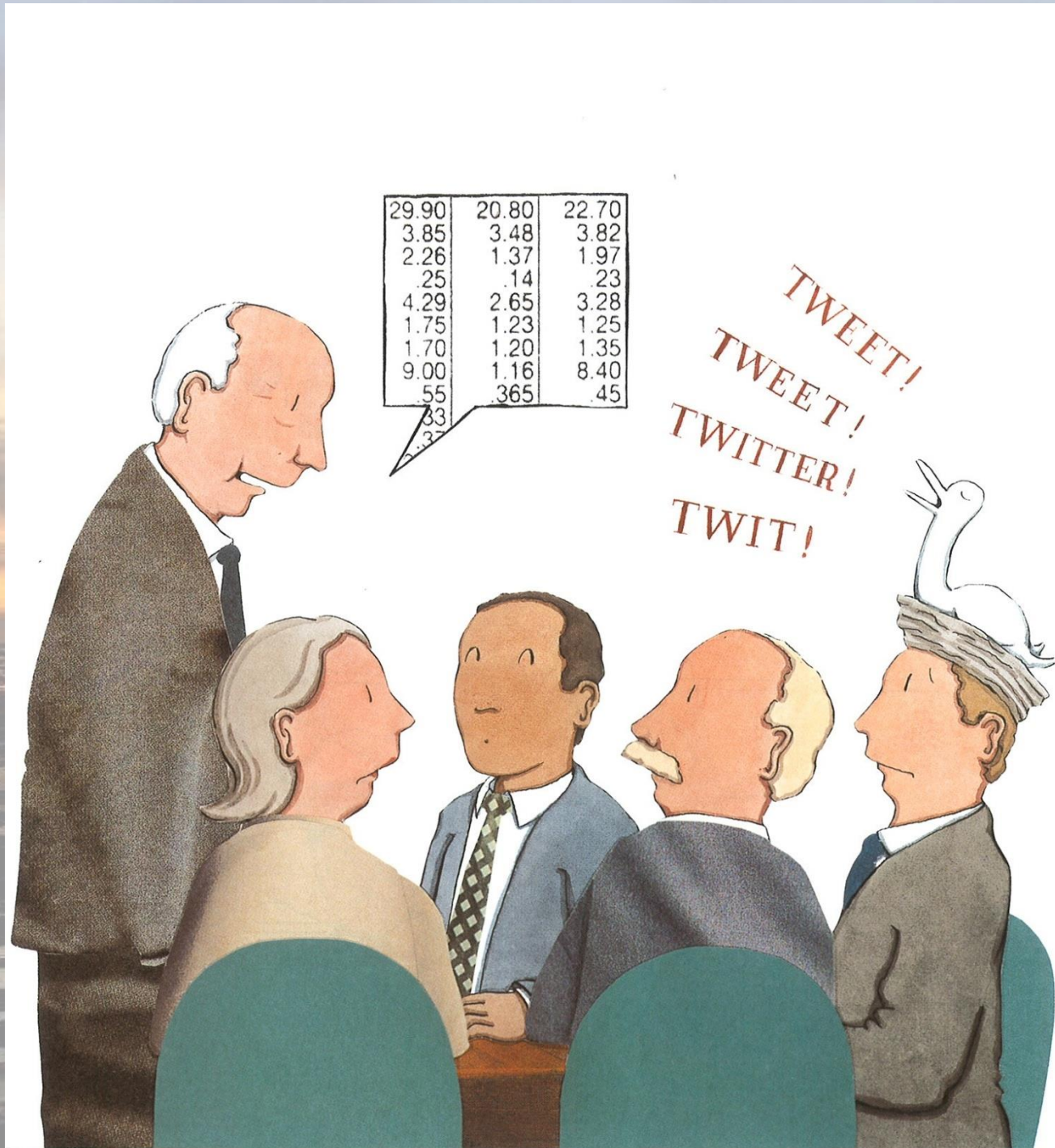


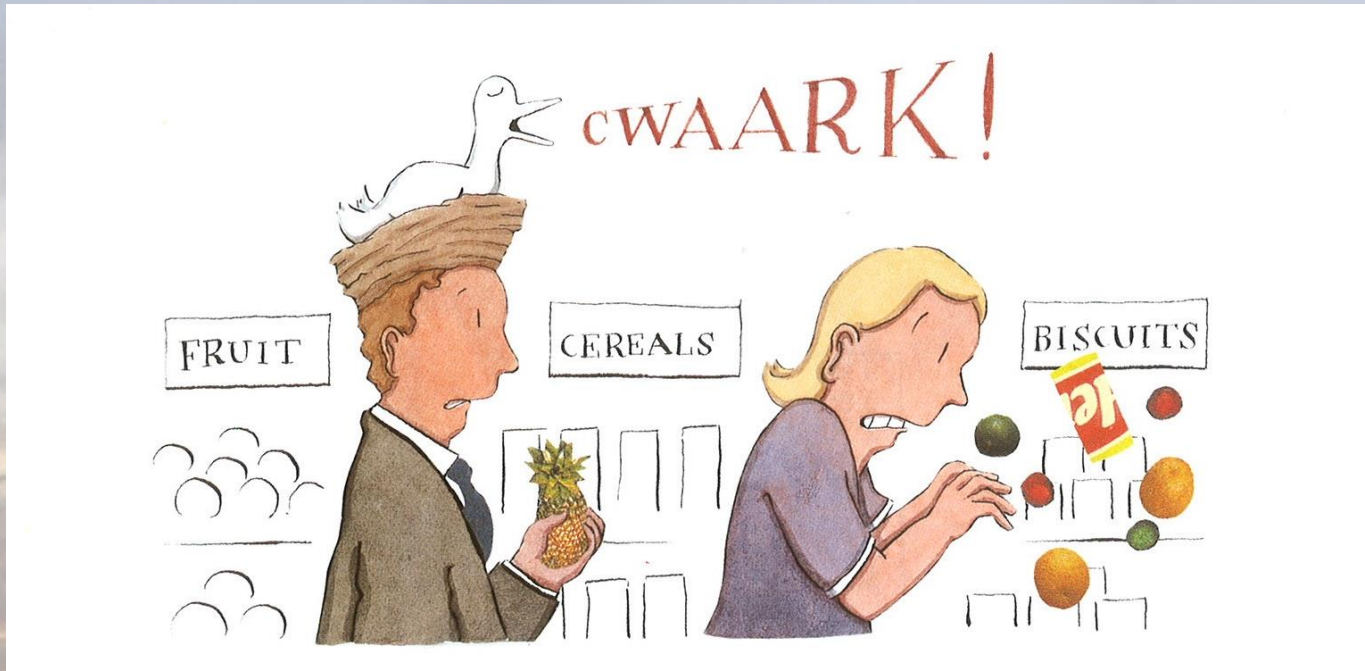


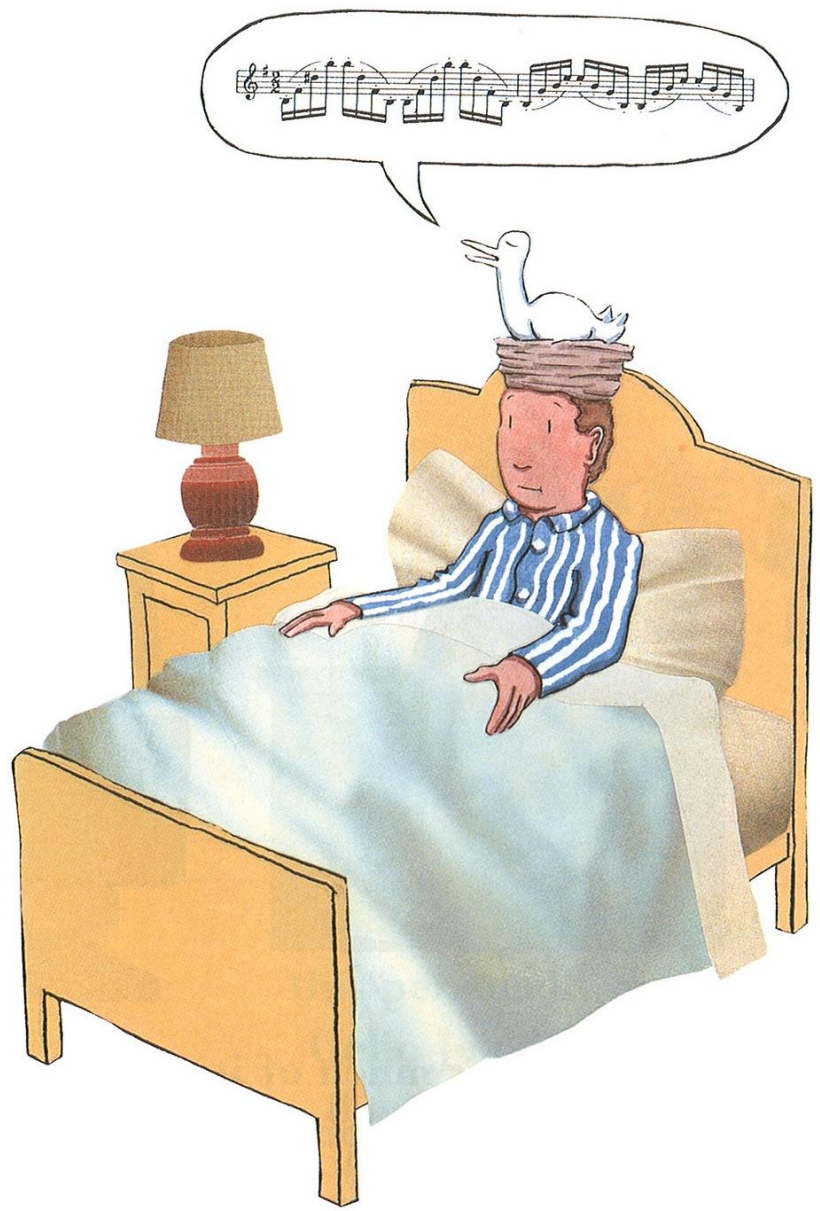


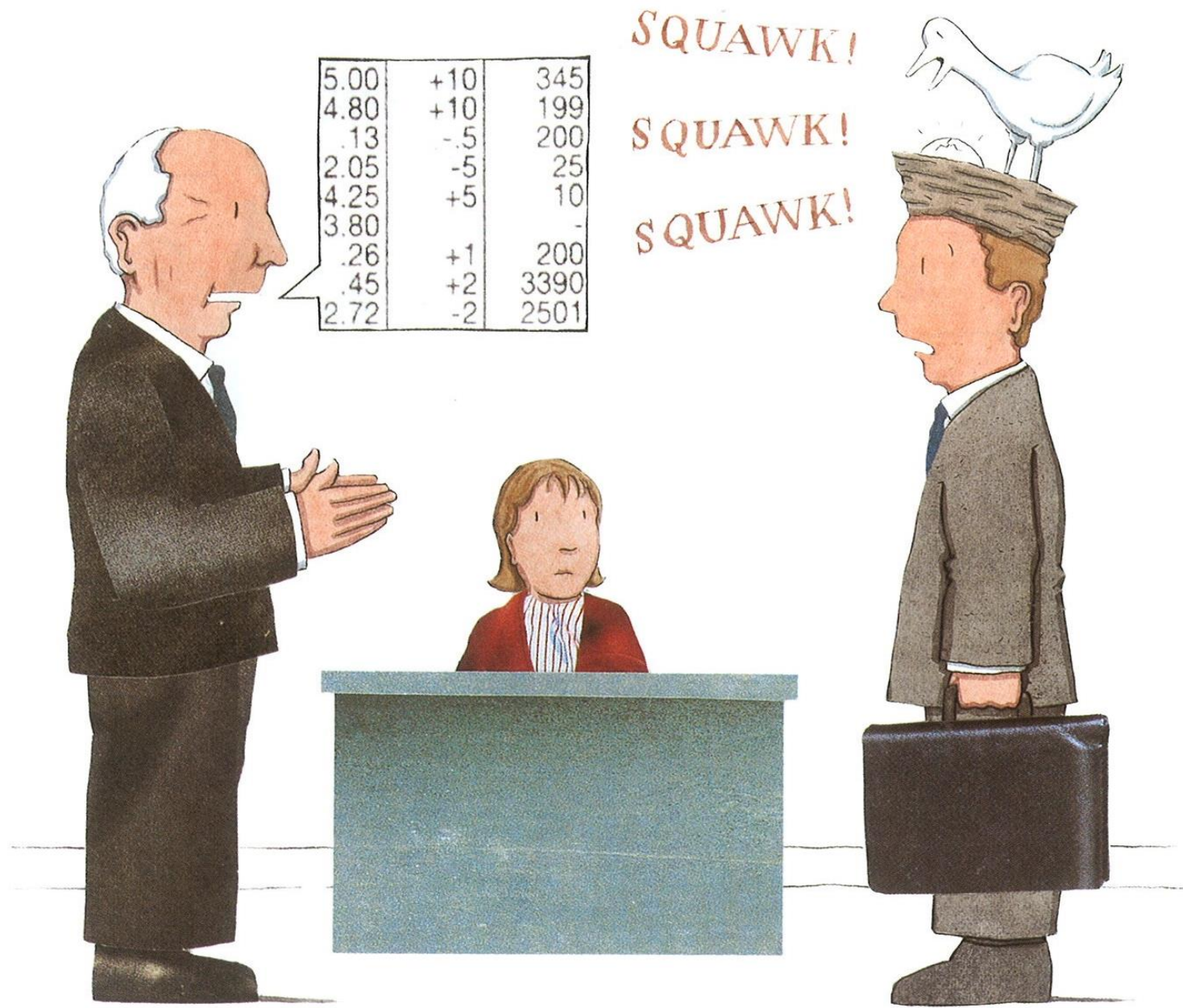






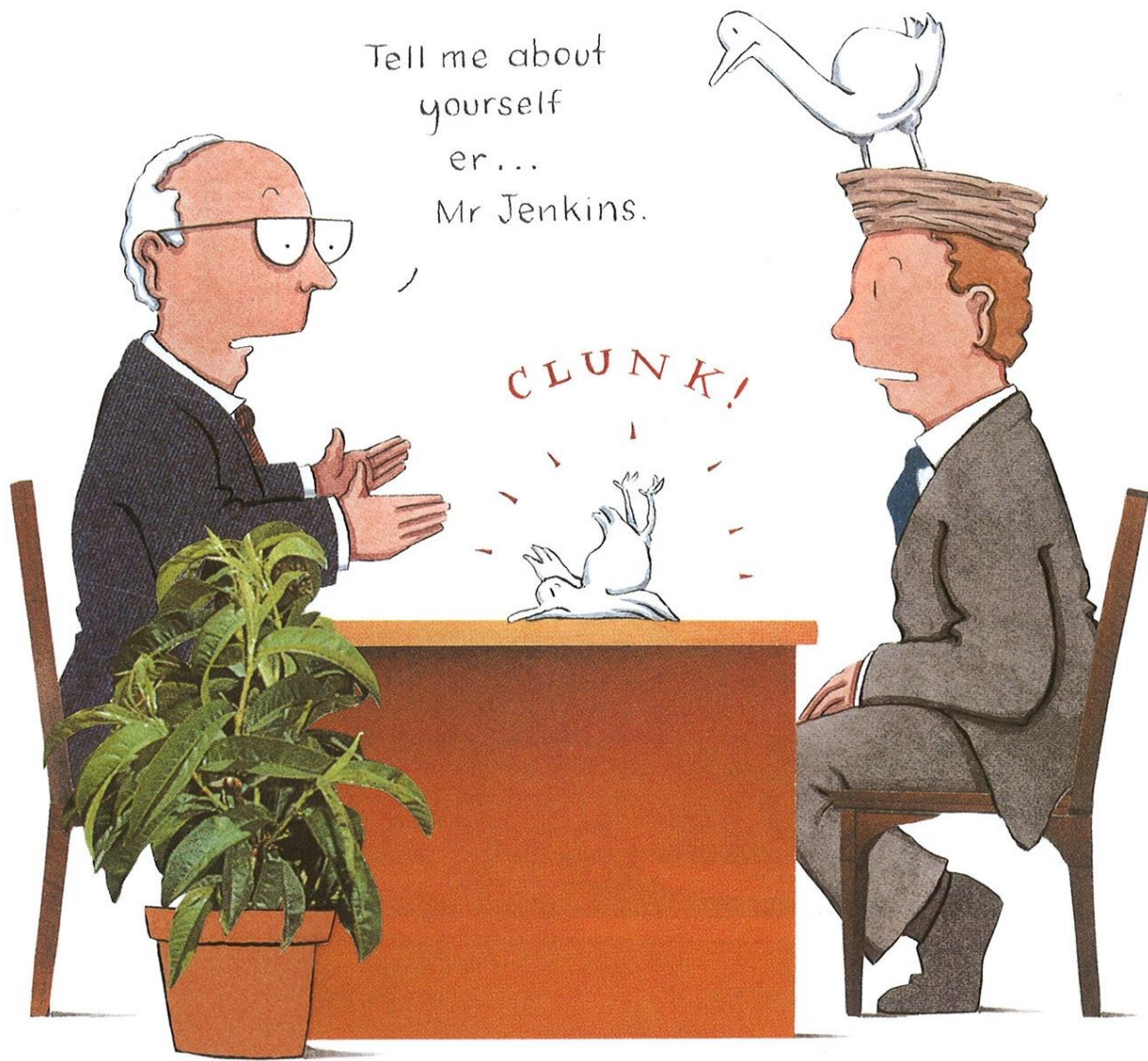








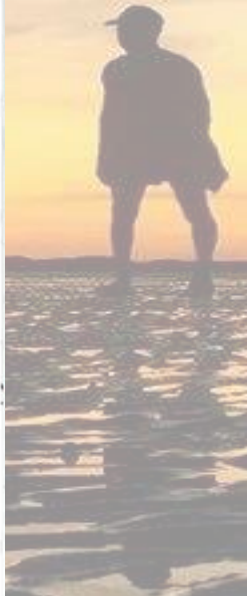
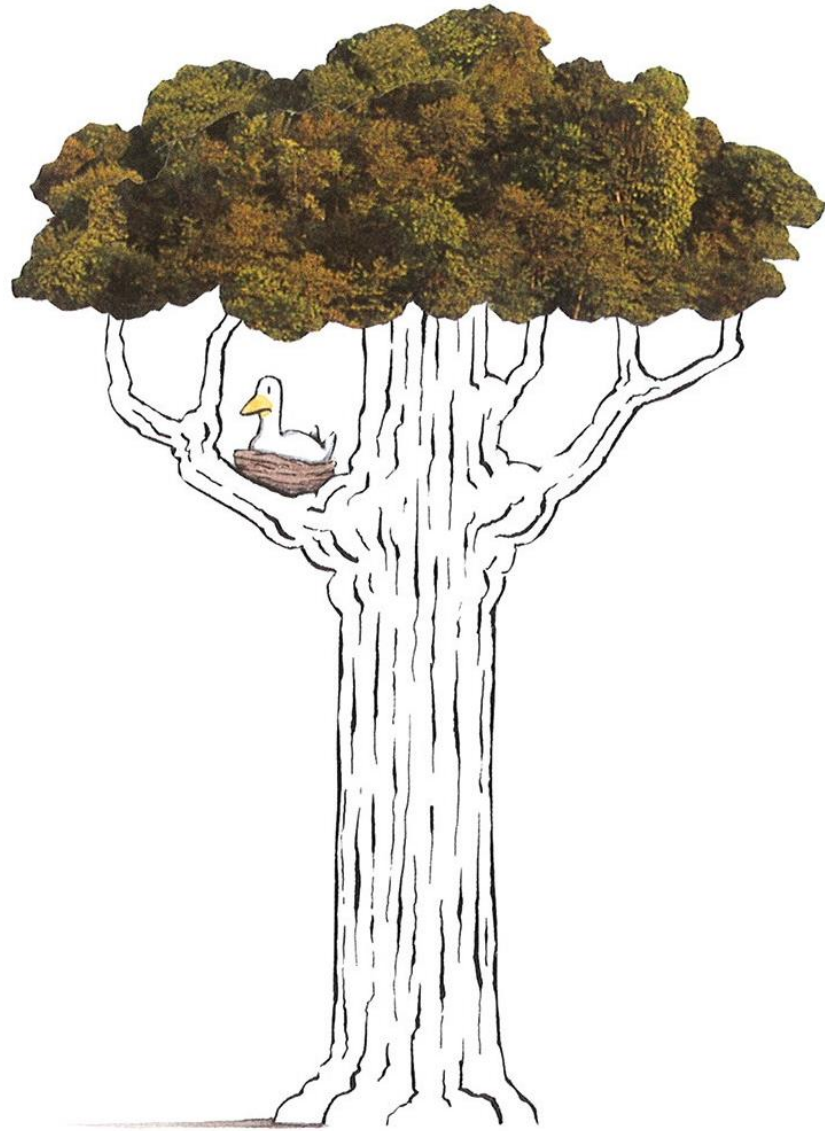








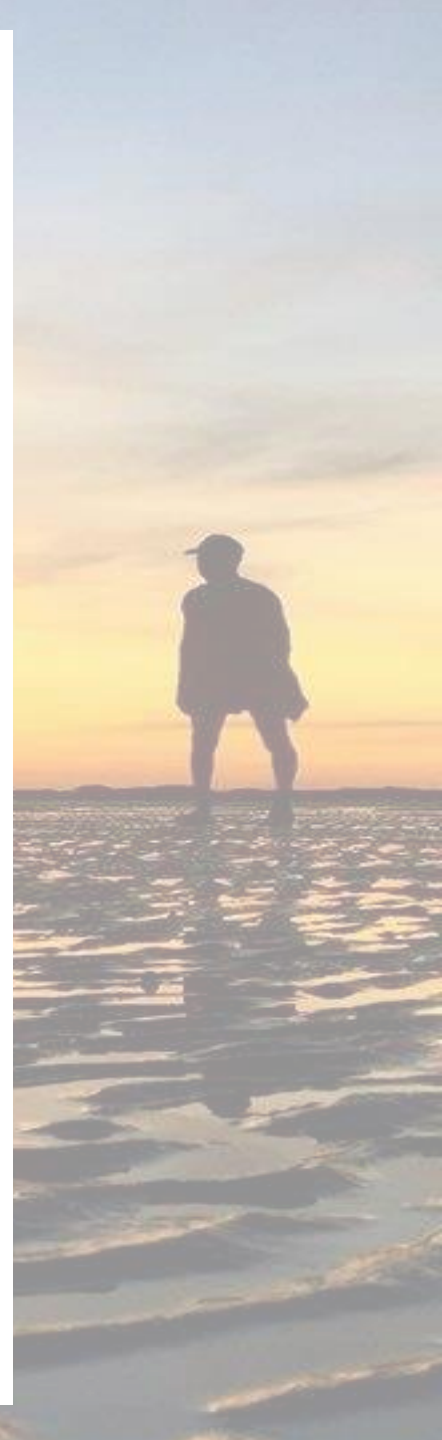


















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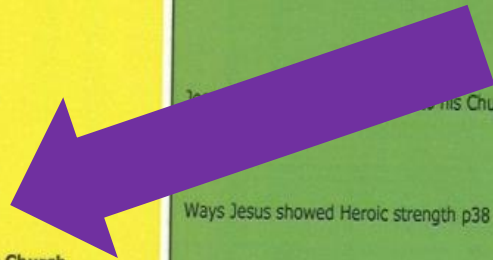


SAINT BOX

- ◇ Research your saint – their life and their beliefs
- ◇ Create a box decorated with symbols of the person's life or a colour that symbolises their life.
- ◇ Choose a coloured underlay depending on the season of the Church Year when the saint celebrates their feast day or their story.
- ◇ Create a small book using one piece of A4 paper:
 - Cover – a picture of the saint.
 - Second page – a map of where the saint lived and worked and perhaps a picture of the flag of that/those countries.
 - Third page – a time line with as much information on the saint as you can.
 - Back page – a paragraph on the qualities of the saint you admire.
- ◇ Make three objects to put in the box that help us remember what is special about this person.



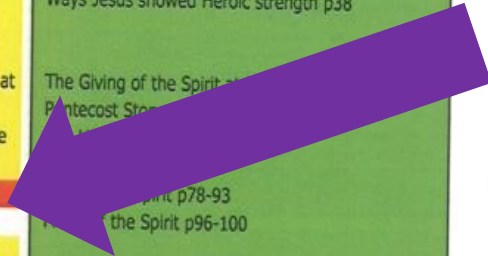
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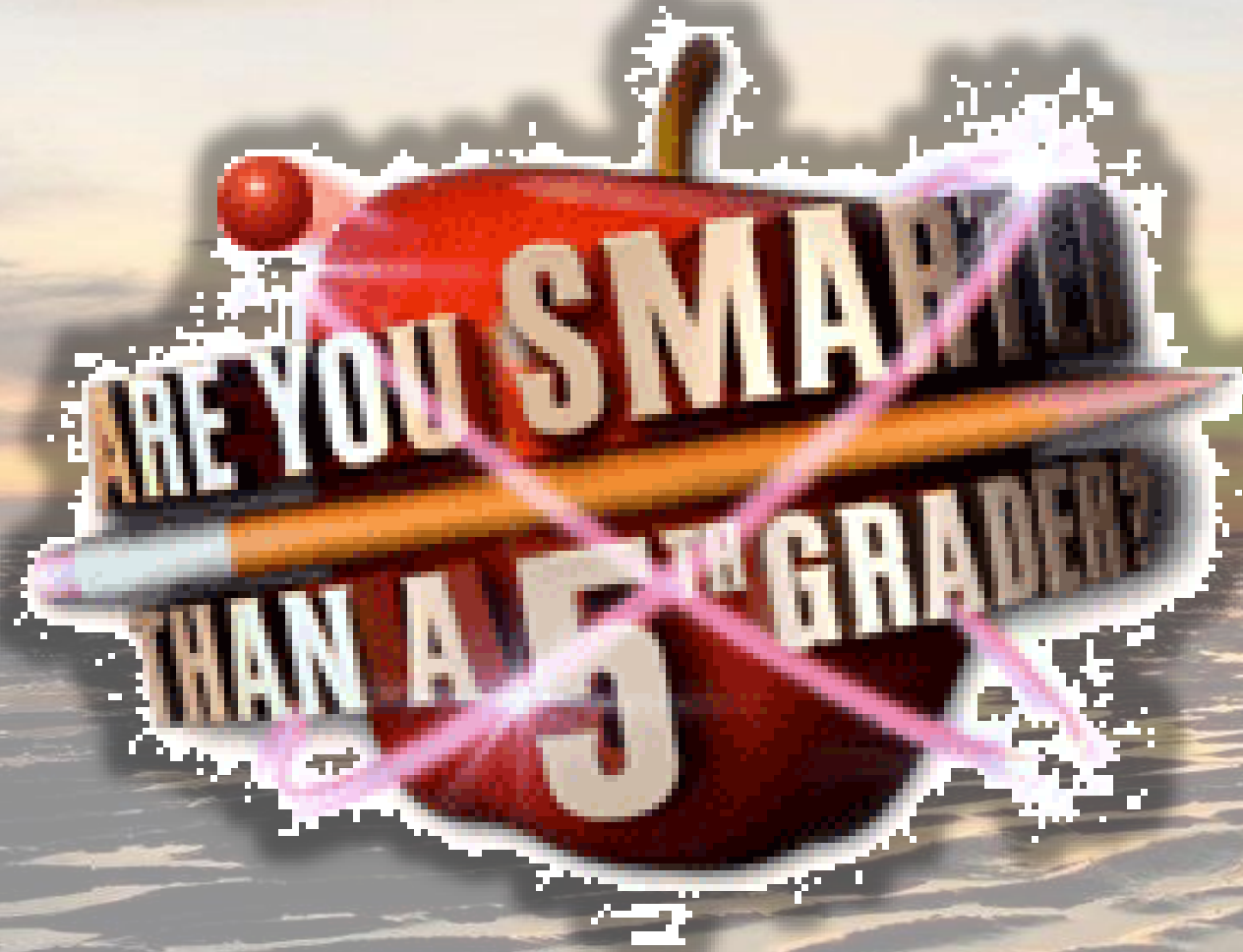
GODLY PLAY



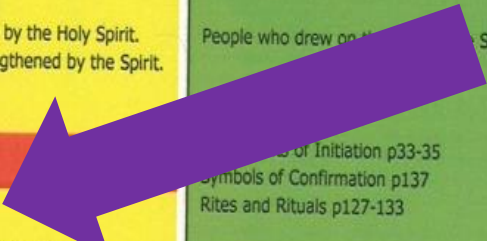
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FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT



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BAPTISMAL RITES FLIP BOOK

*Do you reject sin so as to live
in the freedom of God's
children?*

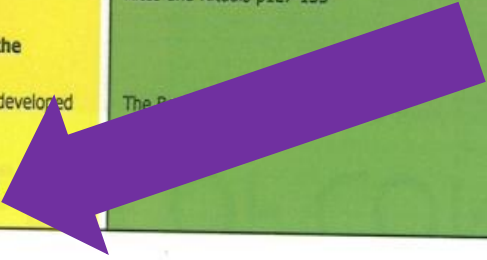
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*It means seeking peace instead of fighting to
solve problems*



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CONFIRMATION RAP

p. 58 "Expressions Book 3: A Religion Series for Catholic Primary Schools" - Maurice Ryan

Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation
Make the Sacraments of Initiation.

Some take a name to remember the day
While a sponsor assists us along the way.

The celebrant invokes the Spirit to be
Near to you and near to me.

Oil and blessings for all who kneel
And pray for the Spirit to be sealed.

Peace be with you is our reply
After laying on of hands to love and guide.

After three sacraments we should be
Members of the church for all to see.



Kimberley REC - RESOURCES TO ASSIST KIMBERLEY REGS IN THEIR ROLE

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Confirmation for all
PROGRAMMING FOR CONFIRMATION
 Booklet that links confirmation to rosary and the dual of thank you & praise and learning program

BAPTISMAL RITES
 Baptismal Rites (flipbook) PDF or Publisher document

CONFIRMATION RETREAT IDEAS
 Confirmation retreat booklet (word doc) PDF or Publisher document
 Confirmation retreat flipbook PDF or Publisher document

GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

Kimberley REC - RESOURCES TO ASSIST KIMBERLEY REGS IN THEIR ROLE

RESOURCES TO HELP WITH THE SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

General Discern of Rosary Sacramental Information

Outline of the format for Reconciliation - and the Reconciliation outline - and the First Reconciliation is a Family Celebration article

THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

- First Reconciliation certificate
- Reconciliation workshop PowerPoint
- St Mary's Reconciliation page
- First Reconciliation Parent night PowerPoint 1
- Reconciliation cards for students
- Reconciliation cards for students
- A liturgy for the Second Rite of Reconciliation
- Examination of Conscience based on the Lord's Prayer
- Examination of Conscience based on the Beatitudes

EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE IDEAS

- Examination of Conscience based on Jesus' 3 commandments
- Examination of Conscience based on the 10 Commandments

RITUAL

