**TriWonder Collective Worship 2 – Teacher guidance**

**Gathering**

**Slide 1**

You may wish to have this video clip playing as the children enter (What a Wonderful World, narrated by David Attenborough) or you may wish to just have the music playing and then watch the clip together when the children are settled:

[What a Wonderful World](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iYXBJmrsxZU)

Begin the worship by lighting a candle and following the school’s usual gathering routine.

**Engaging**

**Slide 2**

Remind the children of the discussion of ‘awe and wonder’ in the first collective worship and briefly discuss the What a Wonderful World video, asking the children what examples of ‘awe and wonder’ they saw in it.

**Slide 3**

Tell the children that you are going to ask them a tricky question and you just want them to just think about it, not call out: ‘Which is more awesome, a rat or a giraffe?’

**Slide 4**

Tell the children that you are going to show them a video about ‘hero rats’. (This video is over 8 minutes long – you could stop it after 3.30 and tell the children that they can watch the rest of it in their classrooms, depending on how much time you have).

**Slide 5**

In addition to their usefulness to humans, scientists in laboratories have found that rats are very social creatures and if one of their friends is trapped, they will be very upset and will find ingenious ways to set them free.

They are terrific swimmers and can hold their breath for several minutes.

Their whiskers are super-sensitive (much more sensitive than human fingertips) and they can use them to sense what is going on all around them.

Their super-strong front teeth can nibble through almost anything.

Their super-rotatable eyes on either side of their head enable them to see in two directions at once, as well as up and down.

**Slide 6**

Tell the children that you just want them to hang onto the question that you posed for a little longer (’Which is more awesome, a rat or a giraffe?’) while you tell them about something that the Bible says.

**Slide 7**

In the Letter of James in the New Testament, it says this: *If an impressive-looking man comes to your church wearing fine clothes, and a street person wearing rags comes in right after him, and you say to the man in the fine clothes, “Sit here, sir; this is the best seat in the house!” and either ignore the street person or say, “You’d better sit here in the back row out of everyone’s way,” haven’t you segregated God’s children and proved that you are not judging by God’s values?*

**Responding**

**Slide 8**

Ask the children whether they think there might be any connection between the message from James and our first reaction about the rats versus the giraffe. Leading to the conclusion that, sometimes we can miss the awe and wonder in things that don’t immediately seem impressive. But God calls us to look for what is special in all things and value the special potential in all things.

**Sending**

**Slide 9**

Ask children to investigate any interesting facts about everyday creatures over the week ahead and tell them that they can come and tell you during the week so that you can share these in your next collective worship.

**Slide 10**

Finish with this prayer or an alternative according to the custom of the school.

Perhaps play the ‘What a Wonderful World’ music again as children leave.