**PSHE Lesson Plan: *Empathy and Caring***

**Topic**: Empathy and Caring  
**Book Reference**: *Mr. Crabley’s Ghost*   
**Age Group**: 9-11 years (adjust as needed)  
**Duration**: Seven 1 hour sessions reading 3 chapters of the book at each session and doing some of the suggested questions.

**Lesson Objectives:**

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

1. Understand the concept of empathy.
2. Identify actions that demonstrate empathy and caring in the story.
3. Recognize how empathy can improve relationships and how it helps others feel valued and supported.
4. Reflect on how they can show empathy and care in their own lives.

**Lesson Outline:**

**1. Introduction (10 minutes)**

* **Starter Activity**: Ask the class: “What does it mean to show empathy? How do you think it feels when someone shows you care and understanding?”
* **Discussion**: Introduce the idea that empathy is the ability to understand and share the feelings of others. It means putting yourself in someone else's shoes and showing compassion when they are feeling sad, confused, or upset.

**Questions for Discussion:**

* + How would you feel if someone showed you care when you were upset?
  + What does it look like when someone is showing empathy?

**2. Reading the Book Chapters (15 minutes)**

* **Activity**: Read a couple of chapters of *Mr. Crabley’s Ghost* aloud to the class. (If reading aloud isn't possible, students can read silently or in pairs).

**Focus during reading**:

* + **Character Insight**: Who is Mr. Crabley? How does he behave? How do other characters interact with him?
  + **Empathy Moments**: Pay attention to moments where the characters demonstrate empathy (or lack thereof). How are others affected by Mr. Crabley’s actions and behaviour? Is there any moment where the characters show they care?

**3. Empathy in Action: Group Activity (15 minutes)**

* **Activity**: Break the class into small groups. Give each group a different scene from the first two chapters that involves Mr. Crabley and other characters. Ask each group to identify:
  + What emotions are the characters feeling?
  + Is anyone showing empathy? If yes, how? If not, how could someone have shown empathy in that moment?

Afterward, each group will present their findings to the class.

**4. Class Discussion (10 minutes)**

* **Reflect on Empathy in the Story**:  
  Discuss how the characters in *Mr. Crabley’s Ghost* interact with each other and whether they show care and understanding. What would have happened if they showed more empathy?

**Guiding Questions:**

* + How did the actions of the characters affect each other emotionally?
  + What could the characters have done differently to show empathy and caring?
  + Why is it important to show empathy, even if someone doesn’t seem to care at first?

**5. Empathy in Our Own Lives (5 minutes)**

* **Reflection**: Ask students to reflect on a time when they showed empathy or when someone showed empathy towards them.
  + **Questions for Reflection**:
    - How did you feel when someone showed empathy toward you?
    - How did it feel when you showed empathy to someone else?

**Activity**: Write down one way they can show empathy in their daily lives (at school, at home, with friends, etc.). Students can share their ideas with the class.

**6. Conclusion and Homework (5 minutes)**

* **Wrap-up**: Recap what empathy is and how it affects our relationships and feelings.
* **Homework**: Ask students to write a short paragraph about a time they showed empathy toward someone or a time someone showed empathy toward them. How did it change the situation?

**Materials Needed:**

* Copies of the *Mr. Crabley’s Ghost*.
* Whiteboard and markers.
* Paper and pens for reflection activities.
* Projector/Smartboard (optional) for group presentations.

**Assessment:**

* **Formative Assessment**: Evaluate students’ participation during the group activity and class discussion.
* **Reflection**: Review students’ written reflections for understanding of empathy and caring.

**Extension Ideas:**

* **Role-Playing**: Have students role-play scenarios where they practice showing empathy (e.g., a friend is upset, a new student is nervous, etc.).
* **Art Activity**: Ask students to create a visual representation (e.g., drawing or collage) of what empathy looks like, using moments from the book as inspiration.

This lesson sets the foundation for the overarching theme of empathy and caring throughout the remaining lessons. It’s important to revisit the theme periodically and encourage students to engage in activities that promote kindness, understanding, and positive relationships.