Looking After Living Things: assembly script

At a glance

Story: Hazel's Little Oak **For:** Reception and Key Stage 1 (ages 4–7) **Time:** 10–15 mins
You need: the PowerPoint. The same script is in its speaker notes. You don't need any props.
Links: Relationships and health education (primary): respectful, kind relationships; general wellbeing. EYFS Personal, Social and Emotional Development: Managing Self.

1. Welcome	Welcome, everybody. Today's assembly is about looking after living things. We're going to hear a story from Thistledown Lane called "Hazel's Little Oak".
2. Think about it	Ask: What small thing have you helped to look after? Take a few answers: a plant, a pet, a little brother or sister. Say: looking after small things is a big job. Let's see what Hazel finds one spring morning.
3. The story, part 1	Read: Hazel is a young deer. Her acorn was planted by her bracken bed, next to a little stick. One spring morning, Hazel saw something new. A tiny green shoot! "My tree has started!" said Hazel.
4. The story, part 2	Read: Bramble and Moss came to look. The shoot had little green leaves. All winter, its root had held on under the ground. Hazel had grown too! Now she did not wobble at all.
5. The story, part 3	Read: They went to find Lilly in the woods. Little trees were popping up everywhere! They grew from the acorns Lilly had forgotten. "I'm a tree-planter!" said Lilly.
6. The story, part 4	Read: "It'll need a fence round it," said Lilly. So Hazel took her big speckled feather to Moss's Swap Shop. Moss gave her a little ring of twigs.
7. The story, part 5	Read: Hazel put the ring of twigs round her tiny tree. Deer love to nibble baby shoots. But Hazel would not nibble this one. It was her tree!
8. The story, part 6	Read: Hazel lay down beside her little oak to keep it company. "Me and my tree. Growing up together," said Hazel.

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9. Talk together	Give children half a minute with a partner for each question, then take a few answers. 1. What had grown next to Hazel's stick? Listen for: a tiny green shoot: her little oak tree. 2. How did Hazel keep it safe? Listen for: a ring of twigs, and she lay down beside it. 3. Deer love to nibble shoots. What did Hazel choose to do? Listen for: she didn't nibble it, because it was her tree to look after.
10. Have a go	Curl up small like an acorn. Push up one finger, like a tiny shoot. Now grow slowly, slowly, until you are a tall, steady tree.
11. Remember	Read it together, slowly. Ask the children to say it back to you.
12. Quiet moment	Invite everybody to sit still, close their eyes if they would like to, and think quietly for half a minute. You can add your own school's prayer or reflection here.
13. This week	Set the challenge for the week. Look after something living: a plant, a minibeast, or the place where you play. You could ask in your next assembly who had a go.
14. Goodbye	Say goodbye. If you have time, watch the whole episode free at https://thistledownlane.co.uk/episode-hazels-little-oak (no adverts, no sign-in and no tracking).

The lesson

Looking after small things is a big job. And growing up happens a little at a time.

If you have longer

Watch the whole episode free at **thistledownlane.co.uk/episode-hazels-little-oak** before the questions. There are no adverts, no sign-in and no tracking.

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