

GOD OUR FATHER CARES FOR US

ABOUT THE UNIT

This unit is designed to explore relationships in the family and in the wider community. It will introduce the children to the idea of a Christian family and community. They will hear that when we hurt people we need to say sorry.

WHERE THE UNIT FITS IN

This unit builds on their own experience of relationships at home.

PRIOR LEARNING

It is helpful if the children are able to name people who are important to them.

SKILLS

Cutting, sticking, speaking, listening, discussion, consideration.

VOCABULARY

God's Family, sorry, Church, priest, deacon, pray.

ASSESSMENT

At the end of this unit:

Most children will know that they are loved and cared for and that their families are a gift from God. They will know when they should say sorry.

Less able children will be able to name some members of their own family. They will have to be reminded of when to say sorry.

More able children will know that the family of God gathers together in church.

A.T.1 A.T.2

N/a N/a

PROGRAMME OF STUDY

TEACHING STRATEGIES

R3 Recognise relationships of love, e.g. parent – child, and love received and given; e.g. sharing.

- Revise with the children that God our Father made everything and everybody that exists in the world.
- Who cares for you?
- Who looks after you?
- Discuss examples. Cut out pictures from magazines showing examples – Make collage as individuals or class.
- Ask a parent to bring in a young baby and talk about what he/she has to do to care for the baby.
- Collect objects for the class to show the care a parent shows a baby.
- People of all colours in all places need to be cared for. Ensure resources show pictures of babies from other cultures.

Ch1 Relationships they have in the family, at nursery/school, in the parish, neighbourhood and world.

- We need to care for each other at home and at school. Explore with the children jobs at school (e.g. cook, secretary, etc.). What would happen if these people did not carry out their jobs?
- What sort of care do these people show for us?

Ch3 Ways in which a Christian family and parish share and celebrate life, and show care for one another.

- We have a priest/deacon who does a special job for God in caring for the church building and the people. They help to care for us in school as well. Display names of priests and use photographs if possible.
- Have a picture of church building and talk about it being a special place for people to go and pray.
- Reflect with the children that in the church building we can think about God our Father caring for us.

- Share with the children some word of scripture about God's love and care for human beings.
- Use these at prayer time to recall that God cares for us.
- Make up songs from simple nursery rhyme tunes about the care of God our Father.
- Revise the Sign of the Cross. In the name of the Father (who cares for us).

L6 Recognise responses that are not loving and failures to show love and care.

- Sometimes we do not show love and care to others. We hurt them by the things we do and say. Recall occasions when this has happened. How did we know when we had hurt people?
- Introduce children to the word "sorry" as an expression of realising we have done something wrong and hurt other people.

Liturgy to conclude unit.

- Thank you for those who care for us.
- Thank you to God for giving us people to care for us.
- Say sorry for those times when we hurt those who care for us.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

R3 Form and enjoy good relationships with peers and with adults in the school community.

Ch1 Know that they are special with their family and community.

Know that families are the special people given us by God.

- Recognise the love and care shown to them.

Ch3 Recognise that the Church is a special place where God's people gather to pray.

- Know that we can talk to God our Father when we pray.
- Hear that God our Father also loves us and cares for us.

L6 Learn to say sorry, develop an understanding of right and wrong.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

Use personnel in school to talk to the children or take children in small groups to visit people where they work in school as long as Health and Safety allows.
This may be the first venture into the wider school building and help to build confidence.

RELATED SCRIPTURE

Genesis 1 – The Story of God Our Father Making Everything and Everybody in the World

OTHER LINKS

- Multicultural – helping others.
- Introduction to the priest and/or deacon as part of the school community.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

- Daily collective worship continuing prayers of thanksgiving.
- Times to say sorry.

EVALUATION

What went well?

Which areas of planning need to be developed/adapted next time?

What needs to be revisited/developed in a later unit?