

Made In Love



Activity Spot

Playdough – week 1: Encouraging kids to be creating the world. Include things like the sun, clouds, trees etc. This could be a 3D shape or it could be a flat creation picture.

Playdough – week 2: Encouraging the kids to create people, all kinds of people, and talk with them about all the things that make up a person: head, body, arms, legs, eyes, fingers etc.

Books – For both weeks, provide a range of books that include stories or images of nature.

Sandpit or Sand trays – Provide a range of trees, sticks, animals etc. to the sandpit or sand tray – you may even like to add some water to help the children create a landscape.

God made me collage – Have a large piece of butchers paper on the wall where you can add cut-outs of all the people that attend your group. Have someone taking photos and a computer and printer set up so that the photos can be printed out straight away. Cut out each person (around their outline) and get the kids to stick the pictures onto the collage.



Game Spot

Freeze Frame – Play music and get the kids to dance around and then freeze in a particular shape when the music stops. Call out a shape that they need to freeze into eg. tree, dog, rock, a tall building. You can play this either week if you like, you just need to change the focus of what the freeze shape is.

Bodyparts game – This game is played with music and a partner, it can be a parent (if at playgroup) or a leader or another child at kids church. Music is played and everyone dances around, when the music stops you need to find your partner and join together the two body parts that they leader calls out e.g. hand/foot, finger/ear.

Creating Spot

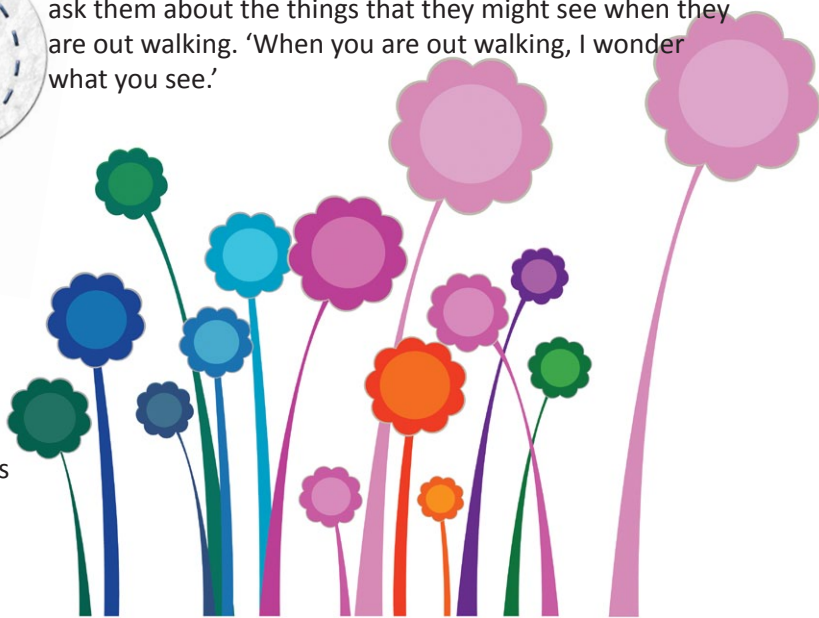
Easel painting – At the easel, provide a range of paints and things to stick onto the painting, e.g. patty pans, leaves, cut-up paper, crepe paper streamers cut into a range of lengths, pom-poms or cotton balls etc. If you add glue to the paint, then the items that you provide will stick on without having to add glue as well. Encourage the kids to create a picture of the world and all the things that they see in it.

Paper magiclay – You can use paper magiclay (see resource list) or playdough for this activity. Encourage the kids to make themselves. While they are doing this, engage with the kids about all the things that they need to add to make themselves. What makes this person them? What colour is the hair? What colour are the eyes? How many hands do you have?

Story Spot

Story books – There are a range of story books that you could read over these two weeks that include images and stories about nature and creation and also about people or specifically about little people. Some books that we would suggest are:-

I went walking – 'I went walking, I wonder what you see?' is a sample of the great language that is used in the book. When you have finished reading this you can talk about all the things that they saw in the book and then ask them about the things that they might see when they are out walking. 'When you are out walking, I wonder what you see.'



God Knows All About Me – This book has great illustrations and language that explores all the things that God knows about a young person. When finished, you could go through some of the areas of the book getting the kids to stand up and point and bend and act out the book, reinforcing that God knows all about them too, that God created and made each special part of them.

Object Stories – Choose an object that has lots of parts e.g. Mr Potato Head, a clock or watch. Talk with the kids about how difficult it would be to make this object. What would be all the things that they needed to do to create such a thing? Depending on which week you use this on, talk about all the wonderful intricate things in creation and how God might have gone about creating them or talk about all the amazing parts of our bodies and how God might have put them together. Remember to include lots of wonder and awe in your language as you explore these topics.

Language

How wonderful are all the things God has made?

You're neat.

From your head down to your toes.

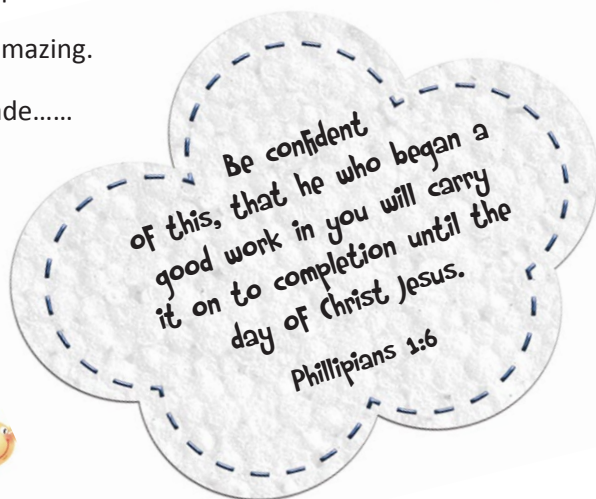
I wonder how that works?

You're special.

That's amazing.

God made.....

WOW!



Mat Time Spot

Dancing Feet

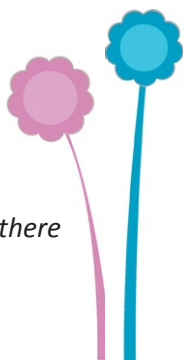
God Made Me

Heads, shoulders, knees & toes

Head to toe "I'm Special"

Hokey Pokey

Put a 'spot' over here and a 'spot' over there



Prayer Spot

Week 1 – You will need a large foam ball that you can purchase from many craft stores e.g. Spotlight, and a range of stickers that would include things that God created for the world. You might like to paint the world before the session – this could be just one colour or you could also paint it like a world with shapes that look like countries etc.

Explain that God has created so many things for our world, some very wonderful, amazing things. Ask the kids what some of those things might be. 'Wow...how wonderful are all the things God created.' Ask the kids, parents and leaders to choose a sticker that they would like to place on the world and thank God for it today. Finish this time with an 'Amen'.

Week 2 – You can have two options this week. You can make or purchase a people chain (many craft stores have a variety of people chains that you can purchase) and get some children/leaders to hold it out the front of the group. 'I wonder who all these people are.' Encourage the kids/parents and leaders to call out names and write them on each of the cutouts. 'You know that God made each of these people and loves them so much, he also made you and loves you too. Thank you God for all the kids and parents and people that we have put on the chain and that are here today, amen.'

You can use the cutout people chain as an illustration but then get everyone in the room to make a real life people chain and go along the chain and thank God for each person. 'Thank you God for makingand.....and....etc.'

Take Home Spot

Week 1 – 'Our World' – Take a walk to the park or around the block and link into the language from the book or that you might have used with your group. 'I am going walking....I wonder what will I see'. 'Did God make that?' 'I wonder why he made it like that.' Depending on the age of your child you can go into more detail about what creations you can see and wondering together how God might have made it just like that.

Week 2 – Provide each family with a people chain or a template that they can cut out themselves at home. Encourage the families to think about all the people in their families or those who are closely connected to their families. Write, draw, decorate or colour these people together, thinking about how God made each one of us and each very special part of us. You might also like to encourage families to get copies of the songs that you play at your group to sing with their little ones at home or in the car.

