



Praising Hands

AIMS AND OUTCOMES

- To consider the greatness of God.
- To discover words, phrases and actions that might help us to praise God.
- To be active in praise and worship.

Heavily adapted from **Multi-sensory Ideas for Worship**, by Irene Smale published by David C Cook. This book is available to borrow from Shelley Porter

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RESOURCES.

- Sheets of coloured A4 paper.
 - Straws
 - Sticky tape.
 - Scissors
 - Glue
 - Pens
 - Lining paper with, 'Heavenly Father, I want to praise and thank you every day. Amen' written on it.
 - Bible and verses copied out for each child.
 - Flip chart and pens
- Ask the children to tell you ways that they think God is great.

Read Psalm 63:1-5

- Give each child a copy of the verses on a sheet of paper and a pen. (Poor readers will need to be supported by an older helper or good reader) Ask the children to underline words and phrases that they feel are ways the Psalmist wants to praise God.
- Ask the children to tell you their answers and put them on the flip chart.
- Now ask the children to underline, in a different colour, pictures or images that the words paint. Eg v 1 gives a picture of a desert place where nothing but fresh cool water will revive the person. The responses they give do not need to be corrected or changed, just written onto the flip chart.



ACTIVITY:

- Give each child a sheet of coloured paper and pen.
- Ask them to draw round their hand and inside the hand shape to write or draw ways that they can praise God.
- Now cut out the hand shapes and stick them with tape onto the straws.

Sing together a modern praise song such as 'I will praise you as long as I live' by Ian Smale (Thankyou Music) and allow the children to wave their 'Praise hands' about as they sing. Encourage the children to use their whole body as a praise offering by dancing, jumping, stretching and shaping.

Using the lining paper

- Get the children to write onto the sheet why they think God is great.
- Encourage them to use drawings and symbols to express their praise responses to God.
- Stick the finished frieze on the wall to use as a prayer working wall for the future, encourage children to keep the sheet updated with their prayers of thanks and praise.
- Let the children take home their 'Praising Hands' as an aide memoire.