

School Creation Care Workshops

Preparing for Workshops

- Choose your date
- Recruit some volunteer helpers
- Check whether helpers have DBS checks or are willing to get one
- Email Clare Green (clare.green@truro.anglican.org)
 - Your dates and times
 - The names and email addresses of any volunteers who need a DBS (we can organise this)
 - The names of any local schools you particularly want to invite (otherwise we will just invite any in your local area)
- Choose the activities you would like to offer – you can, of course, design your own
- Familiarise yourself and your volunteers with the risk assessment (we will provide this for you)

Getting the church ready

- Organise an area for children to sit – on a carpeted area on the floor is ideal, but selected seats or pews works too
- Children should be able to see (and hear) you clearly as well as the screen if you are using one
- Have three or four areas for your activities, with all the equipment needed for each activity
- Have enough leaves cut out for one per child (and a few spares) Luggage labels work equally well and are easier to prepare if you prefer
- Check your tech – it's a good idea to open any links and have videos ready to go with the adverts already run through.

Session Timetable

- Children arrive with school staff, invite the children to sit in a group where they can see the screen (or book if your church doesn't have a screen)
- Welcome staff and inform them of the whereabouts of toilets, you might want to offer hot drinks to staff.
- Staff to sit with/behind children
- Introduce yourself and your volunteer helpers to the children
- Tell the children the creation story or follow the link on the powerpoint for the "Jesus Storybook Bible" read by David Suchet.
- Follow the powerpoint for discussion points, the story and discussion should take about 20 minutes.
- Ask school staff to create three (or four) groups from the children and direct each group to an activity
- After 15 minutes, rotate the groups to the next activity (You may want to ask the class teacher to get the children's attention)
- Repeat until all groups have completed all activities
- Return all children to the space by the screen and provide them with a pencil and a leaf
- Share last slide with the children and ask them to write down a wish or a prayer for creation

- These should be collected by volunteer helpers and/or school staff and tied to the tree with children watching
- There is a link on the final slide to a fun song if you wish to use it
- Finish with a prayer using some of the children's ideas from the tree. Allow 10-15 minutes for the leaves, discussion and prayers
- The whole event should last between 90 and 120 minutes depending on whether you have three or four activities.

Things to remember

- The school staff are responsible for the children's behaviour – any issues refer to the class teacher
- Make sure you give your contact details to the teacher in charge, along with a copy of slide 7 of the powerpoint, they may want to visit the church with other classes
- Don't forget to invite the children to join the next Sunday service to see their prayers being used
- You could always take a photo of the service and email it to the school.