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Elementary School Classroom Activities

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Elementary School Activity (Full Activity 60 mins)

Required Resources:



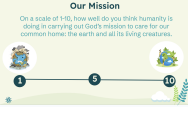



- Projector
- Print out [colouring pages](#)

** Project this [slideshow](#) for this activity**

Slide	Notes
Scripture of creation story for God's original plan for the earth and us (10 mins)	
	Genesis: Ch 1
	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Watch the video as a class2. While students watch the video, ask them to note what are the 2-3 lessons God is trying to teach us through this creation story?3. At the end of the video, give students 2 minutes to debrief the scripture reading with a partner. Pick students to share their responses with the rest of the class.
	Reiterate the main takeaways: Ask 3 students to read each one aloud to the class: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. God created every living thing on this earth, so the earth and all it contains belongs to God.2. He created all things to be good - he says this after each creation to remind us that all creation serve a purpose (even the tiniest and most annoying of insects) in the earth's ecosystem and thus need our care and protection.3. He created humans to also be good. As humans, we have a bond with the natural world. And God trusts us with the responsibility to take care of the world and its living creatures for Him.
Evaluation of how well we are caring for our common home (10 mins)	



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 <p>02 Our Mission</p>	<p>Now that we are reminded of the mission God entrusted to us when he formed us, let's evaluate how well we are carrying out this task/mission.</p>
 <p>Our Mission</p>	<p>Divide the class in half and in pairs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. One half: brainstorm ways in which we care for the earth2. Other half: brainstorm ways in which we are harming the earth3. Solicit responses from both sides to share with the rest of the class
 <p>Our Mission</p>	<p>Now that you have heard some suggestions on how we are both caring for and harming the earth, on a scale of 1-10, how well do you think humanity is doing in carrying out God's mission to care for our common home: the earth and all its living creatures.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ask students individually or with a partner to give their rating and to state why.2. Go through each number range to ask which students rated these and pick a few students from each range to share why:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. 1-3b. 4-6c. 7-9
<p>Introduction to Laudato Si (6mins)</p>	
 <p>03 Laudato Si'</p>  <p>Laudato Si'</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Watch the video2. After the video, ask these questions:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Humans have not done a great job in caring for our common home, the earth. What have we done/are doing to not care for our common home?b. And who/what are these actions impacting?<ol style="list-style-type: none">i. The natural environmentii. All living creatures that God creatediii. Our poorest communities
<p>How climate change is harming vulnerable populations more (10mins)</p>	
 <p>04 Climate Change & Poor Communities</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Depending on the age level, give a brief overview/introduction as to what climate change is before watching the video.2. Watch the video3. After the video, ask these questions:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. How is climate change affecting people in poorer countries?b. Why are people in poorer countries more affected by climate change?

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	<p>c. Which countries are using more fossil fuels? Poorer or richer countries? What are some examples of poorer and richer countries? Which one is Canada?</p> <p>d. What can people in richer countries do to support people in poorer countries when it comes to the challenges they face with climate change?</p>
<p>What can we do to ensure that we are caring for our common home? (20mins)</p>	
	<p>Hand out colouring pages. Ask students to colour and write down ways in which they can care for the earth and each other based on what they have learnt from today's lesson.</p>



Prayers

Prayer for Laudato Si'

All powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness, all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love that we might protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one. O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world, and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth. Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every living creature as we journey towards your infinite light. We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace. Amen.

Prayer for World Day of the Sick

1. Assign one student to read out each intention. The response after each intention is **Lord, come and heal us.**
 - a. Bless all the sick and fill them with new hope and strength.
 - b. Relieve their pain.
 - c. Free them from sin and do not let them give way to temptation.
 - d. Sustain all the sick with your power.
 - e. Assist all who care for the sick.
 - f. Give life and health to our brothers and sisters who are ill.
2. End with reciting the following prayers:

Special Blessing for the Sick

Father in heaven, grant our brothers and sisters comfort in their suffering. When they are afraid, give them courage, when afflicted, give them patience, when dejected, afford them hope, and when alone, assure them of the support of your holy people. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Special Blessing for Caregivers

Lord Jesus, our Brother, you showed your love for the sick by your concern for them. Help us to see you and serve you in the sick. Bless these men and women who are dedicated to helping and healing the sick. Guide them in their labours and give them a greater share of your love. Reward their service by the peace and joy of your Holy Spirit and by the everlasting happiness of heaven.

Lord Jesus, we praise you, for you are our Lord forever and ever. Amen.



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