

Creation: our place, our space

Collective Worship

Theme: Creation Collective Worship Focus: Caring for the world

Opening:

If possible, close blinds or curtains, and turn electric lights off.

It seems quite dark in here.

It isn't so easy to see.

Light the candle

That is better – now we can see more.

A candle shining in the darkness is a very powerful symbol.

Sometimes people light a candle when they are asking God to be with them.

It can help them to think about creation ...

... to turn their thoughts back to the beginning of everything

... then to look out across the world we see today

... and even across the whole universe

... our place, our space.

Stimulus:

What do you see when you look at the world?

Which part of creation do you like best?

What do you think God sees when God looks at the world?

Would you like to turn to the person next to you and share something special with them that you have seen or experienced?

Read 'Where the Forest Meets the Sea' – a story set in the last untouched tropical rainforest in Australia.

Response:

I wonder what will happen if people go on treating the world like they do now?

I wonder what the world would look like and sound like?

I wonder what we can do to change things?

Listen to the music.

Think about caring for the world and living in harmony with creation.

Now take your circle of card and use the craft materials to make pictures, patterns or symbols to represent your ideas for the future of the world.

After a few minutes, invite the children to come and place their responses near the candle.

Closing:

Ask one child to snuff out the candle.

As we snuff out the candle, we may think of our thoughts, our ideas, our conversations, perhaps our prayers spreading out, ready to go with us.

Let us go on with fresh eyes, open minds, and hearts filled with hope.

Resources

Candle, 'Where the Forest Meets the Sea' (given with teacher pack), contemplative music, card circles, craft materials (e.g. pens, crayons, paints, collage pieces, glue sticks), candle snuffer.