

Challenging poverty – learning together as a Diocese

Resources for the classroom for upper Key Stage 2 (see attachments)



This resource focuses on key issues of poverty, its causes and consequences. There are many other aspects of poverty

that can be explored, and some of these could be the focus of follow-on activities. Bishop James Langstaff and Bishop Brian Castle are asking the Diocese to focus on Challenging Poverty in 2015. Materials for parishes and more information can be found on the Rochester Diocesan website (<http://www.rochester.anglican.org/>) and these schools' resources which we have included here are attachments are now also available on the website under 'Challenging Poverty'.



We encourage schools across the Diocese to use this material in Term 5 and to think about making links with the Diocesan Lent course, with Christian Aid week (10-16 May 2015), with a Diocesan conference on 9 May and with worship for Pentecost, which focuses upon action on poverty.

Using the units of work

Some key facts and viewpoints about global poverty are provided for reference and for use in your lessons.

It is always worth checking for updates on the statistics provided. Each lesson has a number of suggested starter activities, which can be used to assess learning by repeating them at the end of a session to assess how effective the learning has been.

Skills

- Communicating: I can express my opinion in a appropriate way
- Critical Thinking: I can critically analyse information from a variety of sources
- Reflection: I can think about what and how I am learning

Knowledge and Understanding

- I understand what poverty is
- I know there is a huge gap between the richest and the poorest in the world
- I understand some of the consequences of poverty
- I know what the Millennium Development Goals are
- I can appreciate the impact that poverty can have on people's lives
- I understand about the unjust nature of the world and the aims of fair trade
- I can think of ways I can take action on the issue of poverty, climate and fair trade/one of these issues

Links with values

- I understand the importance of justice and equality in my life and for the lives of others
- I understand the importance of respecting the rights of all

Refresh your Global Citizenship teaching, Intercultural Practice or Partnership Journey through a free Connecting Classrooms Professional Development face-to-face course at Commonwork. Throughout this course you will explore a range of ways of working with schools in other parts of the world and of developing international learning and global citizenship in your curriculum.

We are still working towards linking primary schools in the Diocese of Rochester with our partner Diocese in Tanzania by seeking funding from the British Council. We are therefore offering this free course at

Bore Place, Chiddingstone, Edenbridge, Kent, TN8 7AR on Wednesday 25 March 2015

We encourage anyone wanting to link with our partner Diocese in Tanzania to attend. However, this course is relevant for anyone wishing to establish links throughout the world. Please book your place with

Julie Easy email : JulieE@commonwork.org

RESOURCES

LENT AND EASTER

Following up on our RE support meetings recently, our friends in the Dioceses of the east of England make some suggestions about how to enrich and deepen the pupils' experiences of Easter on the Churches East website:

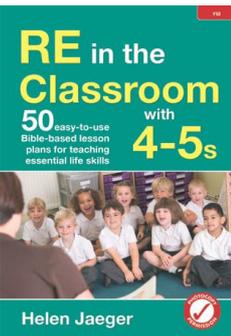
<http://www.churchschoolseast.org.uk/documents/TopTwentyIdeasforteachingLentandEaster.pdf>



RE in the Classroom with 4–5s

50 easy-to-use Bible-based lesson plans for teaching essential life skills By **Helen Jaeger** ISBN 978 1 84101 614 6

Children at Foundation Stage 2 in nursery classes or Reception can learn essential life skills through stories and the issues that the story raises.



Helen Jaeger has identified 50 key learning areas that teachers will wish to explore with 4–5s as they acquire such skills. An opening game or activity is provided; then a question and talking points explore the theme, followed by a short Bible story and reflection to provide a framework to ground the theme. Helen Jaeger has

written material that can be picked up and used as needed. The 50 chapters cover a wide range of learning areas for 4–5s. As children learn how to play fairly, develop independence, eat healthily, make friends and follow rules, their RE and PSHE needs will be addressed. Children will explore asking for help, being forgiving, generosity, making mistakes, truth and working together, through lessons that are fun and interactive. Helen Jaeger has facilitated planning for the teacher and explained how to use Bible stories for teachers not familiar with this methodology.



Empathy Action

There are roughly 1.3 billion people living in extreme poverty in our world today. That's more than 1 in 7 people on the planet who survive on less than \$1.25 per day. How can we engage young people with such issues in a way that will encourage them to care and, more



importantly, take action?

At Empathy Action we run interactive simulations which place participants in the position of those living below the poverty line.



Whilst it cannot compare to the reality of the situation, encouraging participants to think about the problems in

this way often creates a new dimension of understanding, which we hope will lead to a heartfelt desire to help. When the simulation finishes we reflect on and discuss the feelings, themes and questions that the activity raised and we look at direct, practical ways that participants can use their resources, however small, to make a positive change. For more information or if you are interested in booking a simulation, please email

contact@empathyaction.org or call **07968586316**.

Web: www.empathyaction.org (coming soon)



RE Support Meetings—a regular and practical resource

These are continuing to take place for RE subject leaders three times a year in Tunbridge Wells and Rochester. The next meetings are on

Wednesday 3 June at Bennett Memorial

Wednesday 4 June at Rochester Diocesan offices

At these meetings we will be considering

- What is needed in a new Diocesan syllabus – for which we need your feedback
- What we are recording in RE and how this is being assessed (please bring books) - this is an important part of making sure that you are ready for SIAMS

It is important that subject leaders continue to have regular opportunities for CPD so please think about joining us if you have not attended for a while or have not yet been to a meeting.

OPPORTUNITIES

Entering this year's Hockerill/Natre prize both primary and secondary schools are invited to apply for the 2015 prize. Hockerill and NATRE recognize that the needs and requirements of the primary and secondary sectors are different and therefore will give separate prizes to each sector.

Prizes come in 2 parts:

- 1) £600 for the school to enable it to purchase new RE materials
- 2) £600 educational bursary for the teacher to part fund attendance at a specialist educational course for RE

The closing date for applications is **31st May 2015**, with winners being notified in July and presentations being made in the Autumn term.

Download the application form and guidance at www.hockerillfoundation.org.uk or contact Mr Derek Humphrey at info@hockerillfoundation.org.uk for more information.



Spirited Arts Competition

Spirited Arts 2014
(the 11th annual 'Art

in Heaven' competition) had a record number of entries. It has now attracted over 300 000 participants with children and young people taking part from as far away as Indonesia and South Africa. Judges were kept busy for a mammoth 3 days choosing the winners. Teachers reported that the competition had an impact on standards, depth, creativity and enjoyment in RE for pupils aged 5-18.

Winners in all 5 categories and other commended entries can be found in the 2014 Art in Heaven gallery at: <http://www.natre.org.uk/aboutnatre/projects/spirited-arts/art-inheaven/2014/>

The five themes for 2015 are:

Front Page: The RE Book

Faith (or Doubt?)

Questions: Big, Bigger, Biggest
Stories That Change Lives

Where Is God?

There are special categories for digital video and group entries. The closing date is 31st July 2015 with judging taking place in August and winners notified during the Autumn term. To find how you, your pupils

and others in your local group can get involved, go to the Spirited Arts section of NATRE's website:

<http://www.natre.org.uk/aboutnatre/projects/spiritedarts/introduction/>

Exploring Concepts this Easter

Try and encourage 'big thinking' in RE for Easter by using the Diocesan units work to ask some deeper questions about what Christians believe. Here are some suggestions which we considered at the RE support meetings this term.

Reception: New Life/Resurrection

Year 1: Forgiveness

Year 2: Humility and Love

Year 3: Victory

Year 4: Sacrifice

Year 5: Reconciliation

Year 6 : Atonement and Hope

Could you have 'concept displays' this Easter? Could these be the focus for your Easter service? We hope to build on concepts as we review our Diocesan syllabus materials.



Free RE Conference : Energising RE 2015

3-4th October, 2015

Wokefield Park, Reading

This conference is free. It is for RE teachers, primary, secondary and special, who are looking for ways to lead, research and support RE development. Priority will be given to those who have not attended before. In return for giving up part of your weekend, you will receive practical wisdom for the classroom and a wider, longer view of where RE is going – and a chance to shape it. Our aims are:

Informing good practice: Using research to deepen understanding of how religion and belief are changing in the UK, and the impact of this on RE;

Building strong strategies: Understanding how RE is developing and where its future could lie;

Sharing good work: Strengthening collaborative networks focused on improving standards in RE.

Places book up very quickly—find details at <http://www.cstg.org.uk/events/energising-re-2015>

**ISSUE NO: 2
FEBRUARY/MARCH 2015**

St Nicholas Church
Boley Hill
Rochester
ME1 1SL

Phone: 01634 560000
Fax: 01634 408942
Website: www.rochester-board-of-education.co.uk

Further information can be found on : www.rochester-board-of-education.co.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES 2015

2015

MARCH

Tuesday 3rd March

What is Distinctive about Spiritual , Moral, Social and Cultural Development (SMSC) in our Church Schools?
9.30 am to 12 noon and then again from **1.30 pm—4 pm** Please book the most convenient time for you.

Wednesday 4th March

CPD for Primary Teachers—World Faiths (other than Christianity) - Hinduism **1.15 pm for 1.30 pm start**
Rochester Diocesan Offices, St. Nicholas Church ME1 1SL

Wednesday 11th March

CPD for Primary Teachers—World Faiths (other than Christianity) - Buddhism
Rochester Diocesan Offices, St. Nicholas Church ME1 1SL **1.15 for 1.30pm start**

Wednesday 18th March

CPD for Primary Teachers—World Faiths (other than Christianity) - Sikhism
Rochester Diocesan Offices, St. Nicholas Church ME1 1SL **1.15 for 1.30 pm start**

MAY

Tuesday 5th May

SIAMS training and update sessions. **PLEASE BOOK EITHER 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm OR 4.30 pm to 6.30 pm.** These sessions will be held once a term and are open to a senior leader, a governor and the SIAMS/RE leader in the school. These will take place at the Diocesan office, St Nicholas Church, Rochester ME1 1SL.. Please email Teresa.spearink@rochester.anglican.org to book places.

Monday 18th May

Foundation Governor Induction Training **4.30 pm—6.30 pm** to include: the roles and responsibilities of the Foundation Governor of a CoE School. Key aspects of Church School governance including Christian Distinctiveness, SIAMS Inspection and Buildings/Finance, opportunity to ask questions about your role and share your experiences with other Governors

JUNE

Wednesday 24th June

Bishopscourt Garden Party and Evening Service. The Evening Service starts at the Cathedral at **5.30pm**. This will be a service specially created to reflect the concerns of those involved with leading our schools. The second part is a Garden Party from **6.30pm to 8.30pm** at Bishopscourt which is just up the hill from the Cathedral

****HEADS AND CHAIRS BRIEFINGS****

After consultation with schools there will now be 1 breakfast meeting and 1 afternoon meeting

Thursday 7th May

Breakfast meeting **8 am—10.30 am** The Holiday Inn TN15 7RS

Friday 8th May

Diocesan Offices St. Nicholas Church, Boley Hill, Rochester ME1 1SL **1.30 pm— 4pm**



