

Our World – A Universal Church Topic

*Note to parents.

This work comes from the *Come and See* Religious Education programme which is taught in all Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Liverpool. We have given a general guide to the learning opportunities that your child may have come across in school and have only suggested and selected a small amount of the programme. The activities aim to keep Religious Education practical and fun. They are in Year groups however, there is no harm in completing other year group work as this will help your child to remember and strengthen their learning.

Please only choose the activities you and your child wish to complete. There are lots of suggestions to help you choose.

The first part of learning is called – **EXPLORE**. This shares your child's everyday experiences and helps them to see how the Catholic faith is lived in their everyday lives as the theme progresses. The second part, called – **REVEAL** shares bible stories, religious teachings, lives of saints etc. that can relate to their everyday life.

This theme is a **Universal Church** theme and shows the Church at work throughout the world.

CAFOD resources are mentioned throughout and can be accessed on their website: comeandsee.cafod.org.uk
You will have to log in to use the resources, but they are plentiful, fun and free to use.

EYFS - OUR WORLD - EXPLORE

What we love and wonder about our world

- Children can talk about their own experiences of the world and what they love about our world
- Children might be able to say what fills them with wonder about the world.



Activity:

Go outside and enjoy a nature walk. Take a magnifying lens if you have one. Look around you at all the wonderful things you can see – flowers, birds, trees, insects, etc. etc. Take a close look at the detail you see and talk about everything you can see, hear, smell, touch and possibly taste. Take some photos. Collect some leaves, feathers etc. (Remember not to pick the wildflowers!)

What is it that you liked the best on your walk? Why?

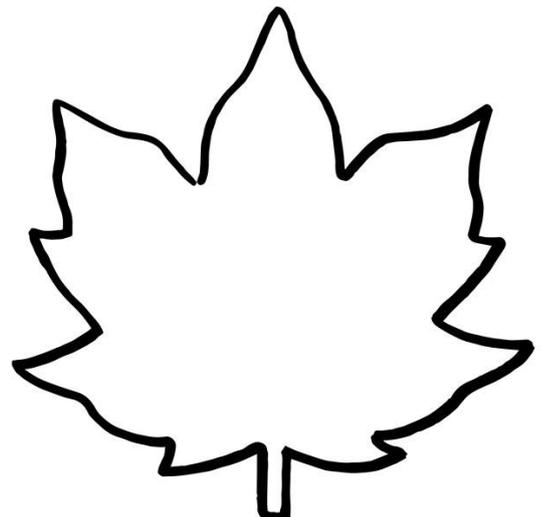
Is there anything you saw that you don't like – anything that spoils our world? (– litter, graffiti etc.)

When you get home, look at all the photos that you have taken and talk about the beauty in each.

Perhaps you could make a collage of the things you have collected and / or make some leaf prints.

Give each child a leaf shape and ask them to say what they wondered about on their walk. Write it on the leaf and add it to your collage or leaf prints.

Talk with the children about how we should look after things in our world, so they don't get spoiled.



EYFS - OUR WORLD - REVEAL

God gave us a wonderful world

- Children may recognise some words and phrases in the scripture from Genesis.
- Children may recognise that people want to take care of the world and share with others because they believe that God said, "Take care of my world!"
- Children may be able to say what they wonder about and how we can all work together to care for the world



Read this to the children:

God made the world and everything in it. He saw that it was all good.

He made the sun and the stars, the sea and the land, the plants and the trees, the animals and the fish. He made people and he told them to enjoy the world and look after everything in it that he had made.

(adapted from Genesis)

Print a copy of the poster, 'God Made Our World' (see below)

Encourage children to spend some time looking at and exploring the poster. Ask them to think about and/or discuss what they see going on in the poster. Let them pick out their favourite part and say why they like it. Talk about all the things you see on it.

Ask them what they love most about God's world? Is there anything they love that they would like to see on the poster?

Ask the children to draw their own world, inviting them to draw things that they love most about God's wonderful world. Talk about what they have included and why. Remind them of the things they saw on their nature walk.

Talk to the children about the need to care for our world and everything in it. Tell them it is precious to God because God made it and it is good, so it is precious to us to and we must look after it.

Together make up a litany of prayer to thank God for our wonderful world and ask for help to care for it and everything in it.

e.g. Thank you God for flowers and trees....., Help us to take care of them!

Thank you, God for the rivers and the seas....Help us to take care of them!

Talk about what you can do at home to look after God's wonderful world. (turn lights, taps off, not wasting food etc.)

Plant something or maintain an existing garden.

Focus on how this is part of God's wonderful world and why we need to take care of it. Talk about what would happen if we didn't look after it.

Take photographs of the children nurturing God's creation.



'God Made Our World'

