



The Diocese of
Canterbury

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

DIOCESAN COLLECTIVE WORSHIP FRAMEWORK

YEAR 3/TERM 2/WEEK 1

CELEBRATING GOD OUR FATHER ('OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN')

The first weeks of this term are based on the words of the Lord's Prayer. It is important that you use one version of this prayer in school and stick with it (many schools make sure that it is the version used in their parish church). This prayer is a summary of Jesus' teaching about God's kingdom and about how to relate to God as father. There are two versions in the Gospels: Matthew 6 v 9-13, Luke 11 v2-4.

This is the Christian family prayer said all around the world in hundreds of different languages.

Make sure that you are sensitive when talking about fathers as not all pupils will have a positive experience of fatherhood. However, all humans have an inadequate experience of fatherhood when compared with the Christian view of God who loves more than any earthly father and also demands more. It is important to point out that Christians call God "Our Father" because they are following Jesus' example and using his prayer. As you work through the Lord's Prayer, you will be exploring different aspects of God the Father to whom the prayer is addressed.

GATHER	ENGAGE	RESPOND	SEND
Display this 'thinking question' for pupils to consider as they settle for worship - What is your idea of the perfect dad? Display the annotated 'dad' outline created in yesterday's worship Play 'I will sing your praises'	<p>GOD "OUR FATHER" (whole school) Matthew 6 v 31-33 Draw an outline of a 'dad' on a large flip chart. Ask the children to volunteer their ideas to the thinking question. As you take answers, have a colleague/or older pupil write down a selection on cards (one per strip of card). Ask the child who suggested it to come out and stick it next to the outline. Probably about 6 will be enough. Tell the children that the Bible describes God as a father, but he is a father who is better than any parent we know. Read the Bible verse. Explain that it shows that God the Father does not want his children to worry – God is a father who gives to his children everything which they need. He doesn't give everything they want though! Ask pupils how this is different. What sort of things might we ask for because we need rather than want them?</p> <p>GOD "OUR FATHER" (whole school) Matthew 7 v 9-11 Today's Bible verse is about gifts. It asks who would give their son a stone if he asked for bread or a snake if he asked for fish. Jesus says, if you are not perfect and yet know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more does God as Father know what his children need.? These Bible verses give a good opportunity for drama/role play. As well as the</p>	Prayer: The Lord's prayer Hymn: The Lord's prayer Or Abba, father. Prayer with actions/signing for the first line Our Father in heaven, Thank you for being our father and for loving us so	Possibly teach the children to sign (BSL) the phrase 'Our Father in Heaven' OR Ask the children to devise some simple actions of their own for this phrase for the next worship



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<p>Display the annotated 'dad' outline created in yesterday's assembly.</p> <p>Play the Caribbean Lord's prayer as the children enter.</p> <p>For KS1 show this clip..... The Lord's Prayer song for kids - The Our Father - YouTube</p> <p>Please be aware there may be adverts prior to the clip!</p> <p>For KS2..... Our Father: Lord's Prayer Song With Lyrics - YouTube</p> <p>N.B. Please ensure you skip any adverts which may play at the beginning of the clip!</p>	<p>examples given, others could be invented. You could display this image http://www.pjsomi.ca/WordPress/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/stones_to_bread.jpg as the drama is presented.</p> <p>Ask the children what gifts God gives us. Are they always gifts we can see? Ask if anyone has worked out some actions for 'Our Father in heaven'. Choose one and teach it to the children. This will be used over the next few weeks.</p> <p>GOD "OUR FATHER" (whole school) Matthew 6 v 31-33, Matthew, 7 v 9-11, Genesis 1 v 31 The suggested poem "My Dad" by Steve Turner (See The Day I Fell Down the Toilet and Other Poems, Lion, ISBN 0-7459-3640-7) or a similar one with "bigger" ideas of the heavenly father. If you have used this poem in the past, use 'I've a father' by Rev. Dean Beaty (this can be found online). Read either poem, and then ask the children who the poem is about. Draw out the idea that it is about God. Where in the poem do you begin to realise it is about God? What clues are there? He's a special kind of father, who won't ever let us down, and loves us all as His children.</p> <p>GOD "OUR FATHER" CARES (class or key stage). Psalm 103 v 8-13 There are modern versions or explanations which may be more appropriate to read to the children. How do these verses help the understanding of God as Father? What qualities are described here? Do earthly fathers have these qualities? How are they shown? How does God the Father display these qualities? Read or tell the story of the Prodigal Son. End by talking about how the father in the story loves both his sons: he forgave the one who let him down and ran away from him; and also the one who acted as though he was superior and found it hard to forgive his brother. The Bible teaches us that God is like that father: He's always there for us, always loves us, and always wants us back when we let Him down.</p>	<p>much. Amen</p> <p>Prayer with actions/signing for the first line</p> <p>Our Father in heaven, Thank you for being the best father we could ever have. Thank you for listening to us and for loving every one of us. Amen</p> <p>Our Father in heaven, Thank you that you always love us, whatever we have done wrong. Thank you for loving us, just as we are. Amen</p>	<p>As God is the father to all, try to learn the first line of the Lord's Prayer in another language.</p> <p>Read the poem 'A Glorious Gift' used by kind permission of Roger Horsch (an American poet) POEM: A GLORIOUS GIFT BY ROGER HORSCH</p> <p>Try to learn the Lord's Prayer off by heart.</p>
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