



There might be questions about climate change, drought, the difference b

Encourage your group to explore the answers to these, and any other questions, as you share your activities. Please be aware, however, that some children may be excessively affected by anxiety over the environmental crisis and you may need to tread carefully to support them.

Together

How do I help my group to come together and get started with the theme?

Gathering prayer

Jesus, our friend

(use alternate index fingers to point and tap the middle of opposite palms)

Be with us today

(two hands, palms up in front of you, move up and down twice)

As we share together,

(two hands, palms up in front of you, move one forward and one back and alternate twice)

Pray together,

(hands together, palm against palm, as though praying)

Play together,

(hands to each side, palms up, make two small circles outwards)

And get to know you better,

(point up with one hand)

As children together in your family

(children of three different heights)

cate

AMEN

(Two thumbs up, and bring fists slowly together to meet in front of you)

OR

Thank you, God, for bringing us together today.

Help us to grow closer to you in all we do.

Help us to speak and to listen, to learn and to grow together,

Adventuring together with you wherever we may go.

Amen

In-person game

As the reading talks about the four rivers running out of Eden, this is a good opportunity to play Runaround. You need to mark the four corners of the room as north, south, east and west and you will need a dice to roll (preferably a big one so everyone can see the numbers on it).

The leader says

space (not too crazily no collisions or falls please).

er can then



different corner. Then the leader rolls the dice. If a 1 is rolled, the children in the north corner are out. A 2 eliminates the children in the east, 3 south and 4 west. If a 5 is rolled, north and south are out, and if a 6 is rolled,



kitchen roll inners, tissue paper, aluminium foil, jewels, seeds, twigs, flowers or artificial flower heads, play animals, lego, small world play people

garden (ask the children what we need to have in a garden)

We begin with some soil or earth (encourage the children to suggest how you might represent the earth)

Then plants and trees can grow in the earth (give children opportunity to contribute to the garden by selecting and adding things to represent the plants and trees and flowers).

What a beautiful garden to live in (spread your hands over the garden and give a thumbs up).

We need someone to look after it. A gardener. God created humans to nurture and care for the garden (choose two play figures or model some to add to the garden).

But gardens need water for the plants to grow and flourish (encourage the children to



Modern parables

theme. Examples are shared here but you may think of others too.

'Sofia's Dream' by Land Wilson, https://youtu.be/H_TWm6HWTBM



Everyday with Jesus – Walking the Way

a suggestion. If not, get them to choose from these two challenges:

- One important thing in the Bible story is water. Try to buy t8.16 6u-3(te u5(e)2 1 t)JETf(o)-3v



Jesus our friend,

invite us today

as we share together

share together

Right middle finger touches centre of other palm, repeat

Alternate hands

