

Junior Religion/Reading/Art

Six Special Days

Students will read the Genesis story of Creation and create a mobile.

Materials: White paper, scissors, crayons, glue

1. Read the story of Creation from Genesis.
2. When finished reading, follow all directions throughout the story.

Religion/Reading/Art for Junior Grades

Jesus Died for All People/Jesus is Alive

Students will create a diorama to share with the class.

Materials: Bible, shoe boxes, paper, small boxes or cardboard, popsicle sticks, fine pens or markers, colouring utensils,

1. Read from the Bible, Matthew 27:11-28:15.
2. After reading, take a shoe box and create a diorama (a display of the scene).
3. Decide how to make the bottom as the land was sand.
4. Use small boxes or cardboard to create the buildings.
5. Use popsicle sticks or cardboard to create crosses and carefully draw the needed figures on the crosses using a fine pen or marker then glue fabric or scrap paper for clothing.
6. Add colour to your creations then place them in your diorama. Be sure your diorama represents the scene or images you saw when you read from the gospel of Matthew.
7. Answer the question, what promises can we trust Jesus to keep for us?

Writing Activity for Junior Grades

Write a Dagwood

Students will write the middle of a story using their imagination.

Materials: lined paper, blank paper

A cartoon character named Dagwood is known for putting lots of filling into his sandwiches.

1. Read the beginning and ending of the story then write ideas for the middle of the story.
2. On a lined sheet of paper, write the middle of the story.
3. When finished writing the middle, on a blank sheet of paper, draw an outline of a Dagwood sandwich (bun at the top, middle section, bun at the bottom so it looks like a hamburger).
4. In the middle of your dagwood sandwich, write the middle of story you wrote on your lined paper.

Story

Beginning

The big house on the hill was empty. That was fine with the squirrels, chipmunks, and birds. An empty house meant no people, no lawn mowers, no gardeners, no danger. Even the deer from the nearby woods enjoyed grazing on the wide lawn. The house was empty for so long that the animals almost forgot what a nuisance people could be.

End

So from then on, the animals stayed in the field and forest. But once in a while, when the moon was new, they'd slip closer to the house because, after all, it had once been theirs.

Science Activity for Junior Grades

What a Shock

Students will identify electricity.

Materials: two inflated balloons tied together on the same string, small plastic comb, scrap of cotton, scrap of felt, 10 puffed wheat or rice cereal bits

Getting Started

1. Rub one balloon on your hair so your hair stands on end. Write down why your hair stands on end?
2. Walk across the room with a scuffing motion and touch something metal. You might say ouch.
3. Matter is made of atoms and inside them are electrons. This investigation will help you to discover what causes objects to become charged with static electricity.

PROBLEM: Which kind of material will make a bigger charge of static electricity?

PREDICTION: I think the _____ material will make a bigger charge.

MATERIALS: small plastic comb, fuzzy material, scrap of cotton, scrap of felt, 10 puffed wheat or rice cereal bits

METHOD: 1. Rub the smooth fabric on the plastic for 30 seconds. Bring the plastic near the cereal.
2. Rub the fuzzy fabric on the plastic for 30 seconds. Bring the plastic near the cereal.

OBSERVATION: Use your senses and describe what you observed, writing in complete sentences.

CONCLUSION: The plastic had the biggest charge from the _____ material.

Static electricity happens when electrons _____.

Electrons jump to the _____ charge.

Junior Religion/Art/Language

Poem - Christmas

C is for the Christ-child, sleeping on the hay,
H is for the holly, cut down without delay,
R is for the reindeer, pulling Santa's sleigh,
I is for the ivy, hanging on display,
S is for dear old Santa, who's driven all this way,
T is for our Christmas tree, sparkling with silver spray,
M is for yummy mince pies, for us to stuff away,
A is for golden apples, one for each of us, OK?
S is for a winter snow storm, "Can we go out to play?"
and C.H.R.I.S.T.M.A.S. spells out the children's special day.

Poem - Christmas

C arol-singing in the frosty air,
H olly wreaths all down the stair,
R eindeer galloping across the night,
I vy looped with tinsel bright,
S tockings hung on ends of beds,
T rees dressed up in golds and reds,
M ince pies ready, spiced and hot,
A baby in a manger cot,
S tars to guide kings all the way...
And we wake up to Christmas Day!

Talking and Thinking About the Poem

- Read the two Christmas poems above. Can you see how the title "Christmas" is spelled out down the left side of each poem?
- Each letter in the word "Christmas" is used to suggest a thing that we associate with Christmas. Can you think of other things beginning with "c", such as carols, cradle and candles? Now list some other Christmas-time things beginning with the rest of the letters.

Structure of the Poem

- Both Christmas poems are acrostics. Acrostics are word games where the subject of the poem is downwards to spell out its name. Can you read the name?
- Compare how the Christmas acrostics are written in different ways. The first says "C is for...", "H is for...", but the second poem simply uses the letters to begin each line, "Carol-singing...", "Holly wreaths..." and so on.

Writing and Display

Write an acrostic poem about Christmas. First collect lots of Christmas words which begin with the letters C,H,R,I,S,T,M,A and S. Then use these to make your acrostic poem. Print the first letter of the word Christmas in fancy and colourful style. You could even make a narrow acrostic into a bookmark to give as a Christmas gift!

Junior Language with Visual Arts or Drama

- 1) Think of your very favourite story or book.
- 2) On a piece of paper, make a point form list or web of the setting, characters and events.
- 3) Create a storybook of 6-10 pages detailing and illustrating the story you selected.
- 4) Publish your storybook in a polished format.
- 5) Gather family and friends and read your book to them.

OR

- 6) Create a play or skit based on your book and present it to your family.

Junior Language

Poem - Breakfast Boast

The smoke alarm went off one day...
our dad expected the worst.
He dialed 999 in his head;
he prayed and yelled and cursed.

Downstairs, no flames, no heroics,
just a wisp of pearly smoke
and a tiny scaly creature. "What's
this?" said dad. "Some kind of joke?"

The little dragon looked so sad,
crying floods of great fat tears
that dad forgot to be angry. He
tickled its forest-green ears.

Eyes shining like sparks, ash on
its face, the creature started to puff.
"I'm lost," it wept and out shot a flame-
"Hey," growled dad. "That's quite enough!"

"We'll put you to work, my lad," said
dad and now it's our proudest boast,
we're the only family in our street
with a DRAGON to make breakfast toast!

Talking and Thinking about the Poem

- Read "Breakfast Boast". Why did Dad dial 999 in his head? What emergency number do you know? What services can you get when you dial this number?
- Think and talk about smoke alarms and how important they are for safety, especially at night when the family is asleep. How might a dragon set the smoke alarm off?
- Why do you think the little dragon felt sad?
- The family in "Breakfast Boast" asked the dragon to make toast for breakfast. List the things that you might want a dragon to do for you, for example light candles on your birthday cake.
- What does "boast" mean? When do you feel like boasting about something? Why did the family boast about the dragon?

Structure of the Poem

- "Breakfast Boast" is a narrative poem because it tells a story. Can you retell the story in your own words?
- Can you find and circle the dialogue in the poem? Read out some of the words Dad said. What questions did he ask? What tells you this?

- Underline the rhymes in this poem. Think of more rhymes to go with smoke/joke, puff/enough, boast/toast.
- Look at the last line of the poem. Why do you think capital letters are used to spell our "DRAGON"? How are you meant to read this line? Try it out loud.

Writing and Display

- Make the poem "Breakfast Boast" into a play. Think about all the characters from the poem and include them in your play. You definitely need a Dad and a dragon. You may choose to include other family member as well. All Dad's words are in the poem, but you need to invent most of the dragon's word and and other characters' words.
- The poem says that the dragon was a "tiny scaly creature". Describe and draw how you think the dragon looked from the description in the poem. Use images to describe its eyes, tail, ears and other features. For example: The dragon was as small as a...; Its coat was as green as a...; It breathed flames like... .
- Make a list of all the jobs a dragon might to do help around the house and garden. Make these into a "DRAGON WANTED" poster. For example, "Dragon Wanted: Must be able to: keep me warm."

Language

Poem - Kitchen Songs

The fridge purrs,
the freezer growls,
the mixer whirrs
and the toaster pops.

The kettle sings,
the sink gurgles,
the pan bubbles
and the mincer chops.

The timer chirps,
the microwave pings,
the percolator popples
and the clock ticks.

The hot tap gushes,
the washer hums,
the dryer whirls
and the off-switch clicks.

Talking and Thinking about the Poem

- Read "Kitchen Songs" aloud and ask yourself the following questions:
Are the things in the kitchen really singing? Why are they described as singing? Can you think of a different title for this poem? How about Kitchen Noises, Kitchen Music? Which do you like best and why.
- Make a list of all the sound words in the poem, such as purrs, growls, and ticks. Think of some new words to describe the noises the kitchen machines make, for example: the washing machine rumbles, the kettle hisses.
- Can you suggest other household machines that "sing" or make a noise? For example, the radio, television, video, computer and hairdryer. Make a list of these items and words to describe their sounds.

Structure of the Poem

- Look at the pattern the poem makes on the page. Can you describe the way in which the poet has made each of the four verses match?
- Find the rhyming words in this poem (pops/chops, ticks/clicks). Where are they placed? Can you think of more rhymes for these words?

Writing and Display

- Look at your list of household machines that make their own sounds. Think of a kenning for each machine. To create a kenning, you need to find a way of describing what the machine does or sound like without mentioning its name. For example, a vacuum cleaner might be a

dust-gobbler, a kettle a water-bubbler and a television a picture-painter. Write your kennings on the shape of the object you are describing.

- Use your kennings to make advertisements for household machines. For example: No kitchen is complete without a water-bubbler!
- Think about other household or garden machines. Use the poem "Kitchen Songs" as a model and write a poem like it.

Junior Language/Science

"Weather" or not you know the answers to these questions, give them a try. Just answer "yes" or "no". Correct answers are listed below. Once you read the questions and the answers, come up with your own weather facts.

Questions:

1. When dogs eat grass, that's a sure sign it's going to rain.
2. "Rain before seven, clear before eleven" is a true statement.
3. If your old scar or healed fracture starts to hurt, chances are the weather is about to change.
4. Kids who live in cold or cool climates behave better than kids who live in hot climates.
5. Lightning never strikes twice in the same place.

Answers:

1. No, if your dog eats grass, he's probably eaten something at mealtime that upset his stomach.
2. No, although early morning rain usually disappears before noon.
3. Yes. A change in humidity is felt in your tissues, and such a change usually means a change in the weather.
4. No. Although you may feel grouchy in the hot weather, kids who live in it year round are used to it, so that's no excuse!
5. No. That is, lightning certainly will strike twice and even more than twice in the same place. So, if lightning struck that old pine tree in your backyard, don't feel you're safe standing under it in the next storm!

Junior Math

Problem Solving - Please remember that these problems are designed to allow students to experience the joy of problem solving and help them relate math to the real world. Some students may arrive at the correct answer without employing step-by-step strategies and some may not arrive at the correct answer. The problem solving process, not necessarily the correct answer, is the most important aspect of this activity.

Here are some strategies to consider when problem-solving:

- Find a pattern
- Think logically
- Act it out
- Think of your own strategy
- Work backwards
- Guess and check your guess
- Make a math table
- Use a number line
- Use objects
- Organize a list

Pigskin Puzzle #1

The coach of the Wildcats wants to get his team into good condition. He has them run around the field three times on Monday, five times on Tuesday and seven times of Wednesday. If this pattern continues, how many times will they run around the field on Sunday?

Pigskin Puzzle #2

The coach of the Tigers wants to get his team into good condition. He has them run around the field once on Monday, twice on Tuesday, four times on Wednesday, five times on Thursday and seven times on Friday. If this pattern continues, how many times will they run around the field on Sunday?

Snow Stumper #1

Sara stores her six warm sweaters in two equal piles on a shelf in her closet. Her red sweater is below the striped sweater. Her turtleneck sweater is on the bottom to the right of her white sweater. Her green sweater is between the turtleneck and the blue sweater. Draw the order of Sara's sweaters.

Snow Stumper #2

Sara's family hang their winter coats and jackets in the hall closet. Dad's navy jacket hangs next to mom's red coat. Sara's white ski jacket hangs to the right of mom's blue jacket and next to her brother's leather jacket. Mom's coat and jacket are next to each other. Show how the clothes are hanging in the closet.

Snow Stumper #3

A snowman has a red hat, a green hat and a blue hat. He also has a red scarf, a green scarf and a blue scarf. Draw the possible combinations that can be made.

Snow Stumper #4

In one hour, five children can make two snowmen. How many children would it take to make eight snowmen in two hours?

Snow Stumper #5

Eight children can make four snowmen in one hour. How long will it take four children to make eight snowmen?

Junior Math

**Adult supervision is required for this math activity.

Sandwich Cookie

Oops! This recipe below makes 24 dozen or 288 cookies. Reduce the ingredients to make four dozen or 48 cookies. Then, follow the directions to bake the cookies. (We divided 24 dozen by 6 to get 4 dozen. Divide the rest of the ingredients by 6 also to get your answer).

Ingredients:

6 cups butter
6 eggs
3 teaspoons salt (think 6 half teaspoons full)
6 cups sugar
18 cups flour, sifted
strawberry jam
powdered sugar

Ingredients

_____ cups butter
_____ eggs
_____ teaspoons salt
_____ cups sugar
_____ cups flour, sifted
strawberry jam
powdered sugar

Directions: In a mixing bowl, cream the butter with the sugar until they are light and fluffy. Beat in the eggs. Sift the flour and salt into the butter/egg mixture. Mix until well blended. Refrigerate for 1 hour. Divide the dough in half and keep one-half in the refrigerator until needed. Preheat oven to 375 degrees.

Bottom Cookie: Roll out the first half of the dough to 4cm thickness on a lightly floured surface. Cut out the dough using a 8cm-10cm round cookie cutter. Place the dough shapes on a cookie sheet. Bake for 10 - 12 minutes.

Top Cookie: Roll out the other half of the dough. Cut the dough using the same cookie cutter, but after it is cut, use a very small cookie cutter or a small bottle cap, floured, to cut a hole in the centre of each dough shape. Place the shapes on a cookie sheet and bake them for 10 to 12 minutes. While they are cooling, sprinkle them lightly with powdered sugar.

When both sets of cookies are cool, spread jam on the bottom cookie. Cover it with the top cookie.

Junior Math

Directions: Take a "measuring journey" through your house. To begin, brainstorm a list of various destinations around your house. Then, list five objects found in each room and write them on the left-hand side of a sheet of paper.

Example:

Kitchen
stove

Bedroom
books

Bathroom
toothbrush

teaspoon

desk/table

hairbrush

cookbook

pillow

soap

can opener

clock

mirror

box of cereal

hanger

bandage

Read through the objects on the list and write estimations of their measurements. Decide on a unit of measurement to use and whether to measure length, width or both. Then, measure the objects. (A tape measure or string may be used to measure the size or circumference of any oddly shaped objects.) Finally, compare your estimations with the actual measurements.

Junior Social Studies

Purpose: To become familiar with national flags.

Materials: paper or cloth material, scissors, glue, straws or sticks, a picture of your national flag and/or a resource (encyclopedia, internet) that includes pictures of the world's national flags

Activities:

1. Look at a picture of your national flag.
2. Make your own flag with paper or cloth material.
3. Glue the flag to a straw or stick.
4. Make flags for any other countries that members of your family came from and or visited recently or some time in the past.

Junior Writing with Visual Arts Extensions

- 1) Write down the name of your favourite sitcom and create a new plot for an episode. Write a summary of the key events in your episode. Don't forget to mention the characters, the setting and the conflict that will drive your episode. When finished, create a 4-5 frame comic strip to illustrate your new plot.
- 2) Write down the name of a holiday and write a sentence for a greeting card that celebrates that holiday. Any birthday, holiday and anniversary can be used. Construct the actual card and give it to someone special.
- 3) Use your imagination to create a new holiday. Then follow the instructions in #2 above.
- 4) Write down the name of a favourite or familiar product and create a newspaper ad to place in your local newspaper or magazine. Remember to keep the information simple and straightforward and add appropriate font and graphics.
- 5) Write a newspaper article for a newspaper dated 10 years into the future. Be sure to include who, what, when, where and why in your article. Create a headline and type your article using Columns feature in your word processing program.
- 6) Write a pangram - that is, a sentence containing every letter of the alphabet at least once. Create a colourful picture to illustrate your sentence.

Junior Language Snow Day Activity

Using the letters of the alphabet, list a food name that begins with each letter. Begin with A and go to Z. For example, you could start with Apple, then Bread, etc.

Do the same using the following subjects:

- animal names
- places in the world
- restaurants
- any subject of your choice!

Junior Math

To practise your multiplication tables, go to the following website:

"www.multiplication.com"

Junior Math

Go to the following web sites to practice reasoning and logic skills:

"www.superkids.com"

Junior Data Management

Cut an article from a newspaper or magazine. Pick any one-foot long chunk of the article by drawing a line at its top and bottom.

Count the 1-letter words, 2-letter words, 3-letter words and so on, in the article by highlighting with different colours.

Make a bar graph of your counts on another sheet.

Which word-length occurred most often?

Which word-length occurred least often?