

Christian Values Story bags

- The idea behind these story bags is to give young children (EYFS and KS1) an insight into different Christian values and also to be able to relate this to their own ideas and experiences. There is a link made between the secular story in the bag and a Biblical one. Both of these are included in the bag. If teachers prefer they may substitute other stories they consider relevant to the value, but making sure that they retain a Biblical story which demonstrates the value from a Christian perspective. The theological basis, or Christian teaching about each value is included with each template. More detailed reference can be accessed from www.christianvalues4schools.co.uk
- Although the attached template for each value gives suggested book titles and Bible stories, another source of reference is *Values for Life* from the Diocese of Gloucester, Jumping Fish publications.
- The objects within each story bag should reflect the different elements of the stories so that children can re-tell or re-enact the stories themselves. Teachers and/or children may wish to add to the given suggestions.
- Pictures give an added visual stimulus which reflect the ideas incorporated within the value being explored. These can be sourced through Google or any appropriate photos/resources in school, including the photocards from the SEAL CD-ROM (DfES 1319-2005 CD)
- The prayer and appropriate Bible verse included in the bag reinforce learning about the given value.
- These story bags can either be used as part of an RE lesson or alternatively for collective worship, particularly if led by the children themselves.
- The ideas given in the templates are starting points to engage children, to deepen their understanding of Christian values and to allow them to respond to the given stimulus. For the teacher, there is a ready made resource which can be used in whatever way is appropriate to the age of the children they are teaching.

Christian Values Story Bags

Christian Value	FORGIVENESS
Secular Story	Lucy's Quarrel by Jennifer Northway pub. Frances Lincoln Children's Books
Bible story	The Story of the Lost Son Luke 15: 11-24
Possible objects to include for storytelling	2 dolls to represent the 2 girls party balloons, bag of coins, a ring
Pictures	You can use Google images or any pictures you may choose to discuss with children how forgiveness is expressed e.g. father hugging his children, children saying sorry to each other, and God's forgiveness expressed on the Cross
Prayer	Dear God, We thank you that you are a loving heavenly father, who, when we have done or said wrong things, are always ready to forgive us when we ask you and we are ready to put wrong things right. We ask you to help us as well to forgive others when they do wrong to us. Amen
Bible verse	Forgive us our sins, as we forgive everyone who sins against us. Luke 11:14
www.christianvalues4schools.org.uk	FORGIVENESS is fundamental to the character of God. Throughout the Bible, God is described as slow to anger, abounding in love and forgiving sin. (Numbers 14:18) Jesus told his followers that they must forgive and keep on forgiving without limit. Christian teaching has always put forgiveness at the centre

Christian Values Story Bags

Christian Value	COMPASSION
Secular Story	<i>The Lion who wanted to love</i> by Giles Andreae pub. Orchard Picturebooks
Bible story	The Feeding of the Five Thousand John 6:1-14
Possible objects to include for storytelling	Small soft lion toy or plastic jungle animals, picnic rug and small basket with pictures of loaves and fish
Pictures	You can use Google images or any pictures you may choose to discuss with children how compassion is expressed in different situations e.g. helping others in practical ways, offering comfort when it is needed
Prayer	Dear God, Thank you that you care for each one of us, whoever we are and whatever we do. You know what we need and are always there to help us.. We ask, Lord, that we may learn to follow your example, showing kindness and care towards everyone, not just those who are our friends. Amen
Bible verse	The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. The Lord is good to all: he has compassion on all he has made. Psalm 145:8-9
www.christianvalues4schools.org.uk	COMPASSION is stronger than feeling sorry for someone. It has more to do with putting yourself in someone else's shoes and experiencing what they experience. Jesus showed compassion towards 'harassed and helpless' people. His healing work was always prompted by compassion for people's suffering.

Christian Values Story Bags

Christian Value	ENDURANCE
Secular Story	The Hare and the Tortoise retold by Brian Wildsmith, pub. OUP
Bible story	Jesus heals the paralysed man Mark 2: 1-12
Possible objects to include for storytelling	Toys to represent the hare and the tortoise, lego or duplo bricks to make a house with a flat roof, small lego or other plastic figures
Pictures	You can use Google images or any pictures you may choose to discuss with children how endurance or perseverance is an important aspect of life for everyone, old or young and the different situations we need to be able to do this
Prayer	Heavenly Father, We thank you that you teach us not to give up but to keep going even when we find things difficult. Thank you that you never give up on anyone and are always here for us. We ask that you will help us day by day so that we may learn to do our very best in every way. Amen
Bible verse	For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide, we might have hope. Romans 15:4
www.christianvalues4schools.org.uk	ENDURANCE refers to human beings standing firm in the face of hardship, but it is important to realise that the Bible gives constant reassurance that God's love, mercy, faithfulness and righteousness endure forever. Endurance, particularly where there is suffering, is character building and it is important not to give up when there is hardship.

Christian Values Story Bags

Christian Value	FRIENDSHIP
Secular Story	My Friend Bear by Jez Alborough Let's Go Home Little Bear by Martin Waddell and Barbara Firth
Bible story	The Man Who Came Through The Roof Luke 5: 17-26
Possible objects to include for storytelling	Teddy bear, Play people
Pictures	Kittens with paw around , Friendship jigsaw pieces, Be a friend to thyself picture
Prayer	Lord Jesus, thank you for my friends, and the games and the fun that we share. Please help me to be a good friend to them. <i>Amen.</i>
Bible verse	Proverbs 17:17 A friend loves at all times Ecclesiastes 4:10 If one falls down, a friend can lift him up
www.christianvalues4schools.org.uk	Friendship is a very important Christian Value and one that children can relate to through their everyday experiences. The Bible tell us that Jesus was a friend to all, regardless of who they were. He taught that God is our friend and wants us to be like Him in our friendships with others

Christian Values Story Bags

Christian Value	HOPE
Secular Story	<i>Lost and Found</i> by Oliver Jeffers pub. Harper Collins
Bible story	The Lost Sheep Luke 15:3-7
Possible objects to include for storytelling	Penguin, boat, duck, signpost for the South Pole, Sheep, with a shepherd's crook
Pictures	You can use Google images or any pictures you may choose to discuss with children how they express hope e.g. snowdrops appearing at the end of winter – sign of spring on the way!
Prayer	Dear God, Thank you that you always look after us, and care for us whatever situation we are in. Even when we have done wrong you still love us. You give us hope because you love us. Amen
Bible verse	And so Lord, where do I put my hope? My only hope is in you. Psalm 39:7
www.christianvalues4schools.org.uk	The Christian value of HOPE value is shown through Biblical writings. It is grounded in the character of God. It is rooted in the love and faithfulness of God, a firm assurance that He can be relied upon. His promises can be trusted. A number of Biblical references are given to affirm this

Christian Values Story Bags

Christian Value	THANKFULNESS
Secular Story	<i>The Generous Rabbit (and other animal stories)</i> by Bob Hartman pub. Lion Children's books or the wordless <i>Window</i> by Jeanie Baker pub. Red Fox which looks at how we treat the environment
Bible story	Jesus heals the 10 lepers Luke 17:11-19
Possible objects to include for storytelling	Rabbit, donkey, sheep figures, , tree, plant figures, green felt for grass, fruit, vegetables
Pictures	You can use Google images or any pictures you may choose to discuss with children how thankfulness is expressed in daily life e.g. for food, the created world, when we share what we've got with others, situations when God helps us
Prayer	Thank you God for all that grows, Thank you for the sky's rainbows, Thank you for the stars that shine, Thank you for these friends of mine, Thank you for the moon and sun, Thank you God for all you've done! http://www.prayer-and-prayers.info/thanksgiving-prayers/childs-thanksgiving-prayer.htm
Bible verse	Don't worry about anything, but pray and ask God for everything you need, always giving thanks for what you have. Philippians 4:6
www.christianvalues4schools.org.uk	THANKFULNESS has always been at the centre of life for Christians. Thankfulness is directed towards God who gives and sustains life. Seeing the world as God's creation underpins the way life is approached, seeing it as a gift and not as a right.

Christian Values Story Bags

Christian Value	TRUST
Secular Story	Can't You Sleep Little Bear? By Martin Waddell
Bible story	Jesus Calms the Storm Luke 8: 22-25 Daniel in the Lion's Den Daniel 6:1-23
Possible objects to include for storytelling	Small toy boat, blue material for the sea Two small teddy bears and a torch, picture of the moon. Toy lion, play people
Pictures	Pictures showing examples of: An adult catching a child as he jumps, It takes years to build trust quote, One man guiding another man who is wearing a blindfold.
Prayer	Dear God, We know that sometimes it can be hard to do the right thing. Please help us to trust in you and show us which way to go. Amen
Bible verse	Psalm 56:3 When I am afraid, I will trust in you. Romans 15:13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
www.christianvalues4schools.org.uk	Trust is at the heart of human life and lies at the heart of all relationships. The Bible teaches that trust is the very essence of faith; trust in God who is trustworthy.

Christian Values Story Bags

Christian Value	KINDNESS
Secular Story	<i>Dogger - Shirley Hughes</i>
Bible story	Good Samaritan Luke 10 25-37
Possible objects to include for storytelling Object to think about ...	Cuddly toy dog or teddy Small play people , donkey , road layout (small world object) Rolos to give out
Pictures	Hands reaching out to touch each other
Prayer	Keep us O Lord from pettiness let us be kind in thought in word and in our actions. Help us to be always kind to others. Amen
Bible verse	Instead be kind to each other , tender hearted and forgiving Ephesians 4-32
www.christianvalues4schools.org.uk	Kindness in the Bible is often linked with serving and looking out for other people. In 1Corinthians 13:4 Paul explains that one of the characteristics of love is kindness

Christian Values Story Bags

Christian Value	LOVE
Secular Story	<i>Guess how much I love you</i> Sam Mc Bratney
Bible story	The Lost Sheep Luke 15:1-7
Possible objects to include for storytelling	Sheep cuddly toy Rolos to give out Decorative Wooden Heart
Pictures	Hearts in different styles and forms Photos of mothers and babies Google images
Prayer	Dear God, I pray that your love may abound more and more and that it will keep me growing in knowledge and understanding of you. Amen
Bible verse	I love you lord , my strength Psalm 18-1 For God so loved the world that he gave his only son John 3:16
www.christianvalues4schools.org.uk	The theme of God's love for all his creation runs right through the Bible and his desire that people should come into a relationship with him. After the Fall this was broken but restored through the death and resurrection of Jesus

Christian Values Story Bags

Christian Value	PEACE
Secular Story	<i>Shh Tony Ross ,Jeanne Willis Five Minutes Peace – Jill Murphy</i>
Bible story	Calming of the storm Mark 4:35-41
Possible objects to include for storytelling	Blue cloth , small boat ,
Pictures	CND symbols , peace crane and story , poppies
Prayer	Lord, Make us instruments of your peace and let your glory be over all of the earth. Amen
Bible verse	The Lord gives strength to his people , the Lord blesses his people with peace. Psalm 29-11
www.christianvalues4schools.org.uk http://peacecraneproject.org/	In the Bible the Hebrew word for peace is 'Shalom' which has ideas of wholeness and well-being. People flourish because they are nurtured in truth and righteousness