

Things to take:

- Question box with pens & paper.
- Door welcome sign, register & rules.
- Memory verse sign.
- Feathers.
- Large fish shapes and newspaper.
- Memory verse cards.

Session Aim:

Introduce the children to the concept of the Holy Spirit and encourage them to get to know Him.

“The Spirit is in you and is a gift from God.”

1 Corinthians 6:19

Game as they arrive and register: Keep it in the air

Have enough feathers for each child to have one each (craft shops sell them in bags). They have to try to keep their feather in the air using their breath alone, by blowing it-no hands allowed. The winner is the one who succeeds for the longest (though it'll be chaotic fun so you may not be able to tell!)

Rules & answer questions in the question box**Game: Kippers**

Cut large fish shapes out of newspaper. Give one to each team (have some spares in case of tearing!), as well as a roll of newspaper. The player has to fan the fish along the ground to the finish line. They then pick up the fish and run back to their team. Continue as a relay. The winning team is the first to all get the fish to the end and be sitting down quietly!

Pray for today's session**Memory verse:**

“The Spirit is in you and is a gift from God.” 1 Corinthians 6:19

Split the group into small teams and give each team a set of cards with one word from the memory verse written on each card. They have to put them in the correct order. Once they have done this, get them to try and learn the verse. Go and take a card from each team until they have none left. See which team can remember the verse.

Bible bit:

Luke 24:49, John 15:26, Acts 2:1-4

Who's heard of the Holy Spirit? The Holy Spirit is mentioned all the way through the bible, from the very beginning where the Holy Spirit rests over the earth. The Holy Spirit is God's helper on earth.

In the Old Testament the Holy Spirit helped people to do particular things at particular times

But when Jesus came he promised that everyone who believed in him would receive the Holy Spirit.

We're going to hear now about how that happened...

Read 'The helper arrives'- *Lion storyteller Bible page 146 (2008 version)* If you don't have this you can call YoYo and we will lend you a copy.

Talk:

(There is a power point to go with it, if you want to use it)

So who is the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is part of God. God is three in one (could use ice cube illustration):

God the Father, our heavenly father

God the Son, who's called...Jesus.

And God the Holy Spirit

What does the Holy Spirit do now?

1. It makes us part of God's family, when we become Christians we become children of God with him as our father. The Holy Spirit is God's gift to us.
2. Through the Holy Spirit God gives us gifts. We are all different and God has special gifts to give to each one of us. Each is chosen especially for us and is different to everyone else's. He only gives us good gifts. (You could reference the fruit of the spirit)
3. He helps us, he guides us and helps us to make the right decisions, he helps us to live for Jesus, he gives us courage, he helps us to get to know God better, he helps us to understand when we read the bible, and he helps us to pray. He helps us to become more like Jesus.

(You could use a clip of the Incredibles using their power, if you had lots of time!) Who's seen the Incredibles? The Incredibles were on a mission, they all had powers that were unique and special to them and that they could use to help others and themselves.

In some ways saying we're a Christian is like putting on the super suit. But putting on the super suit isn't what makes the Incredibles incredible is it? If I put on a super suit it wouldn't give me any powers. When we become Christians we don't just look the part, God gives us his special helper (The Holy Spirit) to help.

But in lots of ways being filled with the Holy Spirit is better than being a superhero because not only does God give us power but he also gives us help and helps us to make the decisions God wants us to make. The bible says that all Christians should be filled with the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit is for everyone no matter how young or old you are. The best thing about the Holy Spirit is that if we ask God will give it to us!

Response / Group Prayer:

Shall we ask Him to come now?

(Tell them what to expect-nothing scary; may feel warm/tingly/peaceful-or may feel nothing-He meets us all differently. Get them to sit quietly with their hands open then ask the Holy Spirit to come. If you don't feel your group can do that, then just teach them about Him-but if you risk it you may be pleasantly surprised. I've seen noisy groups be stilled by God's presence and sit remarkably quietly. Afterwards ask how many of them felt His presence during that time? Tell them they can ask Him any time, any where.

Song & Actions:

This term you could either do 'God's Love is Big' from 'Kids Wanna Praise Rock' CD or 'Deeper' by 'Delirious?' which you can download from Amazon for 69p. Words for both of the songs are on the resources section of the CD.

Game: Animal kung fu

The group stands in a circle. They learn four actions, the monkey, the lion, snake and elephant. A kung fu master is chosen. On 3, everyone does an animal pose (can make a kung fu noise too if they want!) Those who did the same pose as the kung fu master are out, and sit down. The winner is the last person standing.

Pray: Kids Rock prayer before they leave.