



# Journeys in the Spirit

Children's work

November 2017

Issue 112



## An easy-to-use plan for a Children's Meeting

*Make sure you have a little time of worship for yourself and other volunteers before the session – even a few minutes is good. The outline is based on a 45 minute children's meeting.*

*To prepare to tell the story of Ruth, read it in different versions of the Bible, including children's Bibles. I spoke with both adults and children and asked them what they thought the story was about. If you are doing the Respond Activity - have a selection of newspapers and magazines available – making sure these are suitable for use with children.*

### Gather

Welcome everyone in your usual way and ensure that everyone knows each other's names. You might like to have a short time of silence with a lighted candle or have an opportunity to share news about the week.

Explain that today we are going to share in a story from one of the biggest collections of books ever written, the Bible. When you are ready, introduce the story of Ruth, Naomi and Boaz

**10 minutes**

### Engage

Share the story of The Book of Ruth (see the text on page 2 of the main pages of *Journeys in the Spirit* issue 112). Use the ideas in *Additional resource 112.A* to adapt the story to suit your audience and make the story come alive.

**10 minutes**

### Respond

What might the story of Ruth look like today? Ask the children if they can think of any other stories about kindness, love or hope. These could be stories that they have read, stories that they have seen in films or real life stories about themselves or people they know.

Look together in newspapers, magazines or online for hopeful stories. Bad news tends to make bigger headlines, so be sure to include Quaker publications such as Quaker News – available three times a year (see <http://www.quaker.org.uk/resources/newsletters/quaker-news>) and other publications/websites which aim to share good news, such as Positive News (see [www.positive.news](http://www.positive.news)).



**Working for change**  
Following growing concern among Friends about forced migration, we have launched a new programme to explore how Quakers can make a difference in this area.



**Plans for China's first 'city of trees' take root**



**'Octopuses tell people good conservation stories'**



**MEPs back complete ban on bee-harming pesticides**



**France set to ban sale of all petrol and diesel vehicles by 2040**

France is set to ban the sale of any car that uses petrol or diesel fuel by...



**'I went from being a war orphan to a ballerina'**

- What stories of kindness, love or hope are happening in your meeting?
- Are there any stories of kindness, love or hope that you would like to make happen, where you could be a central character?

**20 minutes**



## Reflect

Before the end of children's meeting try to allow some time to reflect on the stories you have shared.

Questions to think about:-

- What have we learned from the stories?
- How does hearing stories of kindness, love and hope make us feel?
- Why is it important to share good news?
- How can we make stories of kindness, love or hope happen?

**5 minutes**