



Journeys in the Spirit

Children's work

March 2020



A simple plan for Children's meeting session

Make sure you have a little time of worship for yourself and other volunteers before the session – even a couple of minutes are good.

This outline is based on a 45 minutes children's meeting for worship

Materials

Images of climate change (see link in sidebar on page 2, main issue). The book 'Window' by Jeannie Baker (see link in main issue). An A5 sheet of paper for each child. Pens, crayons, scissors, glue sticks and any creative materials such as tissue paper or scraps of material or wool. You might like to use paint for the creative part of the session.

Gather

Settle with a few minutes of quiet. Ask everyone to go-round and say their names, especially if people do not know each other. Continue with the gathering exercise on page 1 of *Journeys in the Spirit* main issue.

10 minutes

Engage

Encourage children to become aware of their own world around them. Even in their short lives things have been changing. They need look no further than the place where they live. Perhaps there are more cars on the road, new buildings going up and even trees being cut down. We are also seeing plants flowering at odd times of the year or flowering twice.

Use the book *Window* by Jeannie Baker (see sidebar on page 2 of main issue). The book has no words but images that graphically tell a story. Encourage the children to do this. Give plenty of time for them to tell you about each picture before turning to the next page.

10 minutes

Respond

Having looked carefully through the book *Window*, ask the children if they have noticed changes happening around where they live. It might just be small changes such as tree chopped down or it might be more significant changes like new houses being built or new roads. There also might be positive changes and that is good and brings hope.

Give the children two sheets and suggest they draw a large window on each. They could draw two pictures of how the view from their bedroom window might have changed since being in their house or moving to their present house. Help them to think about what these changes might be.

20 minutes

Reflect

Finish with a short period of reflection. Ask the children if they want to share any of what they have done this morning with the adults in meeting. If so decide what and how they will do this. Remind the children that adults have been thinking about these issues as well.

Finish with a few minutes of quiet

5 minutes