



MUST KNOW BIBLE STORIES

stories worth exploring

Daniel and the Lions' Den

Second Level - Session 1



Session 1 – Hear and Explore the Story

Experiences and Outcomes	Benchmarks
<p>Through investigating and reflecting upon biblical and other Christian stories, I can show my understanding of these stories.</p> <p>RME 2-01a</p> <p>Through exploring the lives and teachings of Jesus and other figures in Christianity, I am increasing my knowledge and understanding of key Christian beliefs.</p> <p>RME 2-01b</p> <p>I can show understanding of Christian beliefs and explore the similarities and differences between these and my developing beliefs</p> <p>RME 2-01c</p> <p>Through investigating and reflecting upon the lives of Jesus and key Christian figures, and drawing upon moral values as expressed in Christianity, I am beginning to understand how these have influenced Christian morality.</p> <p>RME 2-02a</p> <p>I can share my developing views about values such as fairness and equality and love, caring, sharing and human rights.</p> <p>RME 2-02b</p> <p>I am developing respect for others and my understanding of their beliefs and values.</p> <p>RME 2-07a</p>	<p>Investigates, describes, explains and expresses an opinion with at least one reason on at least one belief from Christianity.</p> <p>Discusses ways in which own beliefs can affect actions.</p> <p>Investigates, describes, explains and expresses an opinion on at least one value from Christianity.</p> <p>Discusses ways in which own values can affect actions.</p> <p>Discusses and expresses views about the importance of values such as honesty, respect and compassion.</p>

Experiences and Outcomes	Benchmarks
<p>I can explain why different people think that values such as honesty, respect and compassion are important, and I show respect for others.</p> <p>RME 2-09c</p> <p>I am developing my understanding of how my own and other people's beliefs and values affect their actions.</p> <p>RME 2-09d</p>	



Suggested Learning Intentions

- Children will become familiar with the Biblical account of Daniel and the Lions' Den.
- Children will increase their knowledge and understanding of key Christian beliefs by exploring the character of God.
- Children will ask and answer questions about the events and values found in the account of Daniel and the Lions' Den.



Suggested Success Criteria

- I can retell the story of Daniel and the Lions' Den focussing on the characters and the speech.
- I can describe (and provide evidence from the story) the character of God.
- I can demonstrate respect by asking and answering appropriate questions.



Resources Required for this Session

Children's Bibles or the Bible text printed.

Story script and props. (available in additional resources) or the 'Daniel and the Lion's Den' PowerPoint (download at bibleworld.co.uk/resources)

'Who said What' speech bubbles. (see additional resources)

'Who said What' dialogue for speech bubbles. (see additional resources)

Glue sticks.



Key points from the story

Christians believe:

- The story of Daniel is a true story from the Bible. It's in the Old Testament.
- God rescued Daniel from an impossible situation.
- God saves his people.
- God is with his people wherever they are.
- God hears his people when they pray and answers them.
- God is more important than anything else, they should put him first in their lives even if it could cause them harm.
- They should pray (talk and listen to) God.
- God will protect them and help them.

Notes

- Please remember that it is the intention that this learning is extended into other curricular areas as described in the introductory document.
- Suggested amounts of time per activity have been included. This is a guideline.



Activity

1. Show the children a children's bible and tell them they're going to hear and explore a story from it. Then ask:

Q: Who can tell me the name of this book?

A: The Bible

Q: Does anyone know what we call people who believe the Bible is a special book?

A: Christians

Q: Does anyone know why Christians think this is a special book?

Accept answers and then affirm/give answers. They might be:

- Christians believe that God and Jesus exist and the Bible is about them. They can learn more about God and Jesus by reading it.
- They believe it's true.
- They believe that God wrote/inspired it.
- They believe that God speaks to them through it.
- They believe it helps them know what God wants them to do.

Q: Is anyone willing to share what they think about the Bible?

Allow respectful answers and debate. Extend the discussion – do you have enough knowledge to make a decision? Do you need to research it a bit more?

Q: Some of us here will be Christians and some won't. Why do you think we are all going to listen to and explore a story from it? If we don't believe in God why should we do that?

Accept answers and then affirm/give answers

- It will help us understand what Christians believe and how that impacts on how they live.
- Maybe we can learn something – values, morals, emotions.
- We need to read it so we have the knowledge to make an informed choice, to help us develop our beliefs.

Q: The Bible is split into two parts. Does anyone know what they're called?

A: Old Testament and New Testament.

Q: Which comes first?

A: Old Testament, it starts with the account of God making the world and goes all through the history of God's people until God sends Jesus to earth as a baby which is the first story in the New Testament. Then the New Testament is all about Jesus living on earth and everything that happened after that.

Q: Our story today is from the Old Testament. So does that mean it happened before or after Jesus came to earth as a baby?

A: before. We think this story happened about 600 years before Jesus was born. **10 minutes**

2. Tell them the story of Daniel and the Lions' Den. You can find a script for an active retelling of the story in the additional resources. Alternatively download the 'Daniel and the Lions' Den' PowerPoint to help you tell the story (at bibleworld.co.uk/resources). **10 minutes**

3. Ask the children which part of the story was their favourite? Ask them to identify the characters in the story and make a list together. **5 minutes**

4. Who said what?

Split the children into small groups. Print the 'Who said what character speech bubbles' from the additional resources. Provide each group with a complete set. Print the 'Who said what dialogue for speech bubbles' from the additional resources. Cut the sheets so each section of dialogue is separate and provide each group with a full set. Ask the groups to match the dialogue with which character they think said it in the story and stick it into the appropriate speech bubbles. **15 minutes**

5. Read the story in the Bible for yourself. What have we learned about God?

Provide a selection of children's Bibles/The Bible text for the children. Ask them to read it (perhaps in pairs).

Explain that one character we've not thought about is God. As they read the story for themselves ask them to think about what they discover about God in this story? What did he do in the story? What was he like? How would they describe him? Encourage them to be able to provide evidence as to where they discovered the information in the story. Feedback what they've discovered. Try to draw out the points mentioned in the key points above.

Remind the children that all this is what Christians believe. **10-15 minutes**

6. True/False Quiz

Reinforce what they've learnt about Christian belief in the story by reading out the following statements. Encourage them to stretch out their arms to make a 'T' shape if they think the answer is yes and to stretch both their arms to one side to make an 'F' shape if they think the answer is no. Reinforce Christian belief as you reply to their answers. **5 minutes**

- God helps Daniel in his job. **True**
- God forgets about Daniel when he is taken to a different country. **False**
- God ignores Daniel when he prays. **False**
- God lets Daniel get eaten by the lions. **False**
- God listens to Daniel when he prays. **True**, Christians believe God listens when they talk to him.
- God rescues Daniel from the lions. **True**, Christians believe God protects and rescues them.
- God sends an angel to help Daniel. **True**, Christians believe God is in charge of angels.
- Daniel forgets about God when nobody in his new country believes in God. **False**, Daniel doesn't change what he believes just because everyone else believes something different.
- Daniel stops praying to God when his life is in danger. **False**, Christians believe they must be faithful to God no matter what.
- Daniel only talks to God when he's got time. **False**, he talks to God three times a day. Christians believe praying, talking to God is important.
- Daniel thinks God is more important than the king. **True**, Christians believe God is the most important person. They must always do what he says.