

# First Reconciliation

## Creative Ways to Engage Children

#### Jess, Ryan & Grandpa



Interactive uses of the three main characters: copyrighted pdf templates are available to print.

Extra engagement ideas - for candidates with severe communication problems.





Designs for bible stories - interactive sensory aids: copyrighted pdf templates are available to print.

Recordings of bible readings for *Bible Journaling*: audio files are available.

Extra activities for each session:

copyrighted pdf templates are available to print.

#### Max & Droogo



Designs for interactive sensory aids:

copyrighted pdf templates are available.

Designs for making Max & Droogo:

copyrighted instructions of crochet patterns are available to print.

Recordings of the stories of Max & Droogo: audio files are available.



## First Reconciliation

Jess, Ryan & Grandpa Interactive uses of the three main characters.



The three characters can be printed and used as a focus and for interaction with the work in the book.

*Resource:* paper, card for the back stand, glue, printing, laminating. *Time: 1-2 hours* for all three characters. *Cost:* low.

Templates of these three charcters are available to print.



Using a suitable surface (spoons in this example), candidates (or another community member) could try drawing their own character resource. Try painting the surface a neutral colour first.

Copied characters will still be subject to copyright as they are copied from the original.

# Extra engagement ideas

Other ideas for candidates with

severe communication problems.

Consider putting together <u>A Prayer & Resource Book and/or</u> <u>Box</u>. Use a shoe box or any size box and a scrap book available from places like Poundland which can be decorated by the candidate.

A Box Top / Scrap Book Front Template in A4 is available. There is a list below of the kind of things to include in the box. It is by no means a prescribed list - simply suggestions; nor is it exhaustive - use your own ideas and imagination, and include candidates in the selection of things to be included in the box.

Cloth / card / paper in liturgical colours; a cushion / piece of material / ribbon can also represent the season of the Church's year or liturgical celebration (white, purple, red, green, gold). See the Liturgical Year & Colours Template for help on what colour to use and when.

LED night lights.

Cardboard body shapes. One for the child to decorate as self.

Small wooden handheld cross / crucifix. A cross could be home made with two sticks.

Representations of characters - Max, Droogo, twins, Grandpa, etc. See suggestions for interactive models.

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Sticks / spoons / wooden pegs for above.

Photographs - family, celebrations, pets, favourite places, etc.

"Treasures" - feather, acorn, conker, pressed flower, pebble, shells, etc.

Pictures of flowers, animals, birds, people caring, hurting, helping, friendship, etc. (collected from magazines, adverts, etc.).

Something to remind us of MARY e.g. rosary, statue, etc.

Shapes, especially heart shaped - any size, shape, colour, material.

Scraps of material, wool, etc.

Cards - birthday, Christmas, Easter, thankyou, etc.

Memories of Baptism - any of the following: baptismal candle, white garment, certificate, photos, cards, etc.

Post-it notes of any size, shape, colour.

Use any or all of these things to help build your PRAYER PLACE in a special place in your home.

Use your Resource Box to help you enjoy RECONCILIATION.















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#### Session 1

Collection of pictures / photos of "creation", e.g. animals / flowers / special scenes / people. These would be easy for catechists to find but are best provided by the family (pictures of special and familiar things). The pictures / photos should be used during the reflective reading of the Bible passage, picking /pointing out the images which come to mind as the passage is read. Later pick one or two of the images to glue in the scrap book. Self photo with heading: "Thank you God for making me".

Final prayer together – praying the first part with a light (LED candle) is important. Session 2

Pictures of people showing love (again family photos are best) / being friends with God. Pictures of fighting / arguments / stealing / greed, etc. from magazines / newspapers, etc. to illustrate breaking friendship.

#### Session 3

Positive pictures from Session 2; other pictures linked to the commandments (see page 46 in the book), e.g. Parish Church, families, nurses, carers, food banks, etc. Session 4 & 5

Continue to find appropriate pictures.



**COST:** many of the ideas are relatively cheap to create. However, they do incur a cost for catechists or families. Some parishes may already have a *Catechesis Fund* but you may also like to consider a planned giving envelope for parish youth work or catechesis.



# First Reconciliation Bible Journaling Picture Jigsaws

The main picture from each session has been used with words which convey the central message of the passage. This is to help candidates recognise & interact with the pictures from the book and see the

words which are important to aid their understanding of the Bible passage.

**PRINT** the template for all sessions or just your session choice *in colour or monochrome*.

**TRIM** the picture to your desired margin. **CUT** the picture into the number and design jigsaw pieces you desire.

You can choose the shape and number of pieces to cater for the level of the candidate's ability. Examples below illustrate a range of shapes and number of pieces.

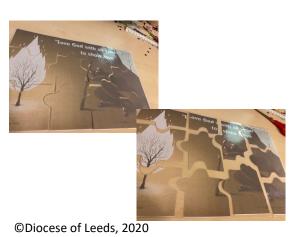
**LAMINATE** if you want to for durability of use. This stage can be omitted. It will add preparation time and a small extra cost. **CUT** the pieces out from the laminated sheet.

## The Jigsaw is ready to use

COST: printing, laminating (*if you laminate*). TIME: 10 mins per picture (*print and cut*).

20 mins per picture (print, cut, laminate, cut).









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### Extra Activities

Session 1 - Baptism: Place the Cards into the Correct Order - print, cut (and laminate) pictures to shuffle and re-order.



- Baptism: Select the Correct Heading and Order - print, cut (and laminate) pictures and headings.

\*Reference: pages 20 and 21 in the book.

\*Templates are available.

Session 2 - Things that Tempt Me!

(Reference: pages 34 and 35 in the book).

A template is available.

Session 3 - Examination of Conscience Key Words Sheet. (Reference: pages 48 and 49).

A template is available.

Session 4 - "Who Says What?" Matching Game.

(Reference: pages 64, 65; inside back cover).

A template is available.



Session 5 - Guess the Outcome Game.



Print & cut round the square.



fold corners from printed side onto blank side.



Do this for all four corners.



Turn over and fold in the corners again.



You should now have a Much smaller square.



Carefully put in your fingers.



Carefully push in together



until all four corners meet up.



Finally - play the game!

(Reference: page 78 and 79 in the book).

A template is available.

#### Session 5 - Dress the Figure of the Prodigal Son -



using male figures from craft sources like Poundland (£1 for 20) or Hobbycraft (also good for different textures of paper and stick-on gems).



Draw round the figure; add a face with hair, nose & expressions.



Cut out the shape of clothes you want and stick on.



Add coats, cloaks and remember to add the bit at the back for a full effect.



Add smaller details as you wish.



Add the props from the Template (or make your own).



Make the second figure in the same way.



Have fun with the props and decoration



Use whatever paper or material you have, be as imaginative and Wacky as you want



Print as many pigs as you want!



Finally, you should have four figures all with different expressions and different clothes.

Together these tell the story of the Prodigal Son and you can have fun playing with them and learning the story.



# First Reconciliation

Max & Droogo



Characters from the story book can be printed, laminated and mounted on sticks, straws, spoons or any material which is suitable to be held and played with.

Resource: paper, printing, laminating, sticks (etc.), tape/glue.

Cost: low. Time: couple of hours preparation.



Characters can be printed, laminated and (attached by Velcro - Hook & Loop) used with gloves for interchangeable hand puppets.

Resource: paper, printing, laminating, Velcro, gloves (gold & purple).

Cost: medium (gloves sourced off the internet at £3 a pair).

Time: couple of hours prep. + order time for gloves; sourcing Velcro.



Characters can be printed, laminated and (attached by Velcro) used with night sleeping caps for interchangeable role play. *Resource:* paper, printing, laminating, Velcro, hats (gold & purple). *Cost:* medium (hats sourced off the internet at £4 each). *Time: couple of hours prep.* + order time for hats; sourcing Velcro.



Characters can be printed, laminated and (attached by Velcro) put onto a head band or (using cardboard) become stand alone charcters.

Resource: paper, printing, laminating, Velcro, headband/ribbon.



Cost: low. Time: couple of hours preparation.



Max the Monkey can be made using the crochet pattern provided by Ann Norman with comprehensive instructions and pictures.

See separate link for crochet instructions.





Droogo the Dragon can be made using the crochet pattern provided by Ann Norman with comprehensive instructions and pictures.

See separate link for crochet instructions.





Marjorie has used monkey and dragon patterns <u>available free online</u> to get the shapes and colour for a knitted Max and a crocheted Droogo to help to bring their stories to life.



For all the ideas on this page, see all the printable templates and instructions on other links on this Creative Ways to Engage Children section of the website.

## **Printable PDF Templates**

Jess, Ryan and Grandpa Reconciliation Templates

Prayer & Resource Box Top / Scrap Book Front Templates

Liturgical Year and Colours Template

Bible Journaling Reconciliation Jigsaw Template

Baptism: Place the Cards into the Correct Order Template

Baptism: Select the Correct Heading and Order Template

Things that Tempt Me Template

Examination of Conscience Key Words Sheet Template

"Who Says What? Matching Game Template

Guess the Outcome Game Template

Dress the Figure of the Prodigal Son Templates

Max and Droogo Templates

Max and Droogo Story Templates

Max and Droogo Crochet Patterns