



Religious Education Home Learning Key Stage 2 Years 3 and 4



Key Stage 2 Year 3/4 Christianity

Concept: Trinity - What does Christian art teach people about the Trinity?

Adults & Children: Think about how you usually describe someone and what assist us in the description? Discuss. Explain people are often described using labels that describe what they do, eg jobs, character, hobbies, but this does not usually describe 'who they are' only what they do. Eg a person maybe she/he is a man/woman, a wife/husband, but he/she is also Mr xxx or Mrs xxxx. Explain sometimes people are referred/described as a swimmer/footballer/ shopper etc but again this describes what a person does not 'who' she is.

Adults: Give each child 3 examples of how they might be three persons but in fact they are also only one person with one name; eg boy, girl, friend, brother, sister, niece, nephew, grandson, granddaughter.

Adults & Children: List any Bible stories you have heard where God is described in any way? Collect ideas. Discuss: What do you think God is like? Besides what they have already shared, ask the children to think of any ways people might describe God from earlier work done on descriptions of God? E.g. Creator, father, shepherd, judge, spirit etc. Discuss: Do these words describe 'who' God is and/or what God does?

Children: Consider each word collected and identify any other words that may describe who God is and/or what God does. Record what you can remember learning before about the Holy Spirit? Reiterate the idea that most Christians believe the Holy Spirit is part of God. Record any questions the children would like answered about the Holy Spirit.

Adults & Children: Cook a hardboiled egg together. Can the children describe all 3 parts? Shell, yolk and white. Explain each has a different name but it is still part of the 'one whole egg'.

Adults: NB The Trinity is a complex concept. Introduce the children to 3 leaves on 'one shamrock (see St Patrick Story)

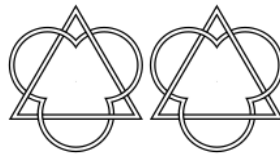
Adults & Children: Watch the video <http://ministry-to-children.com/veggie-tales-saint-patrick-video/> . Explain there are equal three parts to God we call three persons. God is three persons in one: God the Father, God the Son & God the Holy Spirit. **Adults:** Ask: What might God the Father; God the Son and God the Holy Spirit look like? What might they do?

Adults & Children: Think about what God is like and what the Trinity does? Adults describe what each person of the Trinity might do? e.g. Father cares for the world, Jesus the Son saves the world, and the Holy Spirit comes and assists and comforts Christians in the world.

Look at a selection of Celtic crosses. What can be learnt about God from Celtic designs? Can they find out more? Record ideas. Create own colourful Celtic designs to depict the Trinity and label the 3 parts accordingly Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Look at and explore the 'Trefoil and Triangle' images. Think about: How can we find out more about it?

Research. Why is there a triangle? What could the shapes be saying about the Trinity?

A trefoil combined with an equilateral triangle was also a symbol of the Trinity during the late Middle Ages in some parts of Europe. The triangle was one of the first symbols used for the Trinity. The three equal sides forming 'one complete shape' capture some of what it means to be 'three in one'. The triangle is a very strong shape used in construction. Balance and stability in the Godhead are therefore conveyed by the triangle. The eternal nature of the Trinity is shown by the connection between each side of the triangle.



Irish legend says the Celtic cross was first introduced by Saint Patrick, who was attempting to convert the Irish to Christianity. Some pagans worshiped the sun. It is said that Patrick combined the Christian cross with the circular pattern of the sun as a way to associate light and life with the Christian cross. Another story has Patrick marking the pagan symbol of the moon goddess (a circle) with a cross, and blessing the stone, making the first Celtic cross.

