

# KIDS RESOURCES

## 4-7



COMMUNITY  
& GLOBAL  
ENGAGEMENT

**ECO**  **CHURCH**  
AN A ROCHA UK PROJECT



**ALLCHURCHES TRUST LIMITED**®  
OWNERS OF ECCLESIASTICAL INSURANCE GROUP

[www.ecochurch.arocha.org.uk](http://www.ecochurch.arocha.org.uk)



# SHARING CREATION



## GAME

### Balloon Bounce

#### Materials:

- 2 or 3 blown up balloons

#### Instructions:

- All the children work together to keep the balloon in the air for as long as possible by bouncing it between them. Time attempts to find the longest stretch of balloon bounce.
- Add in an extra balloon if they are finding it too easy.



## GAME

### Leaf Thief!

#### Instructions:

- Gather a pile of dried leaves and put them into the middle of the circle.
- Choose 1 child to sit on or next to the pile of leaves with their eyes closed – they are the Leaf Guardian!
- Point to children around the circle who have to creep into the circle and try to steal a leaf – they become the Leaf Thief!
- The Leaf Guardian has to listen for the Leaf Thief and try to grab their hand as they take the leaves.
- How many leaves can be stolen! How many thieves can be caught?



# BIBLE

## Introduction

Today we are going to be learning about how sharing and working together is God's plan for us. We will learn how this keeps our world healthy and helps people to live well too. We will see what happens when we are greedy and look at how we can live life so that we share with people all around the world.

## Bible reading: David's Greed (paraphrase of 2 Samuel 12)

*King David ruled over all of Israel. He had everything he could ever want or need – lots of money, gold from around the world, delicious food, supercool clothes, the finest chariots and horses, the most awesome houses and thousands of people who thought he was the best thing ever! He was clever and good at looking after his people and his people loved him. He was so powerful that he thought he could do what he liked and one day, he stole something important and precious from a poor man who lived near him.*

*Soon after, King David had a visitor – a man called Nathan, who loved God and heard God speaking to him, was sent by God to see King David and tell him a story.*

*"Oh King. I have a story to tell you. Once upon a time, there were two men who lived in the same town: one man was very rich and the other man was poor. The rich man had lots and lots of sheep and cows, but the poor man had nothing except one little girl lamb (ewe) which he had bought. He helped it to grow, feeding it from his own cup, sharing his own food and even letting it sleep in his own arms. He and his children loved this ewe like one of the family.*

*One day, a traveller came to stay with the rich man, but the rich man didn't want to use one of his own sheep or cows to give the traveller a meal – he didn't want to share it! So, instead, he stole the ewe that belonged to the poor man and made that into a meal for the traveller."*

*King David was really cross with Rich Man in the story and said that he was cruel and unkind. And then Nathan said to King David, "But the Rich Man in the story is you, because you have taken more than you need and you have stolen from the poor people." And King David understood what the story was about and was so upset, he cried and ripped his clothes as he said sorry to God for being so greedy.*



## BIBLE CONTINUED

### Bible Discussion

- Do you think the Rich Man was kind or not? Why? (He was greedy, didn't want to use his own stuff, took from other people without thinking about it.)
- Do you think King David was right to get cross with the Rich Man? (He saw that the Rich Man had done wrong, but he should not have been cross because he had done the same thing himself.)
- What did King David do when he realised that he had been greedy and treated people badly? (He was so upset that cried, ripped his clothes and said sorry to God)
- Do you think we are rich or poor? (Be sensitive to those in your group who might be living in relative poverty. Living in the UK, we are in the top 10% of the world's richest people so we are rich compared to most of the world's population.)
- How might we be being greedy even if we don't realise it? (We keep wanting new things, e.g. clothes, phones, games, toys etc..., even when we don't need them; we want to buy food cheaply without thinking about the people who grew our food; we don't think about the rest of the world who don't have enough money to live on well.)
- How does our selfishness damage the world? (People do not get the money they deserve and stay poor; land is damaged as the rich world takes what it wants from where it wants without thinking about the people around it.)





# ACTIVITY

## Fairtrade farmers

### Materials:

- 10 large coins cut out from cardboard
- 1 large banana cut out from cardboard (no Fairtrade sticker)
- 3 children acting out what is being described: 1 child is a farmer, 1 child is a supermarket owner and 1 child is a shopper.

Act out this short story with the leaders reading and the 3 children acting.

If we are selfish with our money and don't give it to the people who need it, we are being greedy.

- Think about this farmer (child 1 takes a bow and starts acting as you describe) who grows bananas on this big tree. They have to grow the plant, water the plant, weed the ground, check the bananas, pick the bananas, check and wash the bananas and then box them up. They work very hard to grow our tasty bananas.
- Then think about this supermarket owner (child 2 takes a bow and starts acting) who visits the farmer. They taste the banana and if they like them they give the farmer some money (hand over 1 large coin). They take the bananas to their country on a large ship.
- Now think about the shopper (child 3 takes a bow and starts acting) who goes to the supermarket. They buy a banana and give the money to the supermarket (hand over 9 large coins). They eat and enjoy their banana. (Child 1 looks sadly at their 1 coin, child 2 looks greedily at their 9 coins and child 3 looks happy eating their banana – all children take a bow.)

Who did the most work in this story? (the farmer)

Who got the most money? (the supermarket)

Is this fair? (no!)

Watch a story of "Pablo the Super-Banana" by CAFOD: <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Kidz-Zone/Banana-Fairtrade-game>

Fairtrade means that farmers get the money that they deserve and it helps their families and communities too. It means that the rich people are not being greedy and are treating people properly.

It is not just bananas – chocolate, coffee, tea, spices, sugar, clothes, toys, footballs, gold, wine and even trainers. All of these can be bought so that the farmers and people who make them get the money that they deserve. How does that make you feel? [pause] How do you think God feels about that?



## ACTIVITY CONTINUED

### Banana creations

Using a Fairtrade banana, the children can make a seasonal banana foodcraft.

#### Materials:

- A Fairtrade banana per child (If a child is allergic to eating bananas, ask them to make the craft for another person, but have a small bar of Fairtrade chocolate for them to eat)
- A plate per child
- Child friendly knives
- Other ingredients dependent on your choice of recipe

#### Instructions:

- Follow the instructions for your chosen recipe to make a banana creation.
- Each child gives their banana creation to another child to demonstrate how sharing works. They can take them home to share all they have learnt with their families. If you foresee problems with this in your group, ask the children to make 2 banana creations and then they can keep one and share one.

Here are some suggestions or make up your own:

- Snowman – <https://ediblecrafts.craftgossip.com/banana-snowman-on-a-stick/2013/12/08/>
- Father Christmas – <https://alwaystheholidays.com/banana-marshmallow-santa-head-treat/>
- Sheep – <https://kitchenfunwithmy3sons.com/sheep-fruit-snack/>
- Butterfly – <https://www.pinterest.co.uk/pin/563018684375998/>
- Penguins – <https://kidfriendlythingstodo.com/30-easy-winter-themed-fun-food-ideas-crafts-kids-can-make/>
- Dolphins – <https://sugarbeecrafts.com/cute-diy-kids-snacks>
- Bears – <https://ediblecrafts.craftgossip.com/banana-bears/2016/07/17/>





## PRAY



### Materials:

- A Fairtrade banana per child (If a child is allergic to eating bananas have a small bar of Fairtrade chocolate for them to eat)

### Instructions:

- Give each child a Fairtrade Banana to hold.
- Before each bite, remind them of a key person in the banana's creation and ask them to think of them and all they do as they eat.
- After each mouthful is finished, say a **thank you prayer** for that key person
  - **1) God who gave all the rain and soil to grow the banana**
  - **2) The farmer who planted, watered and grew the banana**
  - **3) The pickers who picked, washed and boxed the banana**
  - **4) The transport people who moved your banana to your country**
  - **5) The supermarket who sold the banana to you**
- **Creator God, please help us to be more aware of when we are being greedy and help us to care for all people around the world, even when we can't see them. Amen**



## WORSHIP

### Sung Worship

"He's the got the whole world in His hands": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-T1CLIMjiTw>

"Our God": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BpAZ2yFxEwk>



# ACTIVITY

## Perfect Picnic

### Materials:

- Resources for a whole group picnic including blankets to sit on, food (fruit, biscuits, crisps) and drink (cartons), reusable plates and cups, spare jumpers/sun hats/raincoats, sunscreen
- It doesn't need to be a massive picnic but make sure that there will be some food and drink left over.
- Maybe forage some food from the church grounds if it is seasonably relevant – nettles, elderflowers and wild garlic in spring; wild strawberries and blackberries in summer; elderberries and more blackberries in autumn.

### Instructions for discussion and picnic:

- What do our bodies need? (Shelter, food and drink, warmth) At our picnic, we have blankets, food and drink and extra jumpers if anyone needs one.
- What do we need to feel safe? (Safe place and people to look after us) At our picnic we have a safe location set up, spare sun hats/raincoats to keep our bodies safe, and adults to look after us.
- What do we need to feel that we belong? (Love, acceptance, friends) At our picnic we would love you to choose who you sit next to so that you feel welcome and that you belong here.
- Who gives us all we need? (Work back though parents, animals, food producers etc... to God) God provides for all of us and for and keeps all things going, including us. He meets our body's needs by providing health and food and water; our safety needs by promising that He is always with us; and our belonging needs as He says we are loved by Him and we are His.
- Thank God for all God has provided before eating together.
- Enjoy the picnic together.

### Action – Perfect Picnic Pick-up

At the end of the picnic, collect up all the litter and waste – look at all the waste that is left over. How can we share all that we have so that we are not greedy and unthinking?

What shall we do with all our waste at the end?

- Food waste can be composted; still good food can be handed out to people after the service to reduce food waste; still unopened food can be taken to a food bank.
- Packaging can be recycled using local council facilities. Crisp packets are collected by Terracycle: <https://www.terracycle.com/en-GB/brigades/crisp-packet>
- Spare clothes can be taken to a charity shop or a refugee project.
- Spare blankets can be sent to a homeless project.





## PRAY

This prayer can be shouted or spoken normally.

***Thank you God for all that you give to this world: for the sunshine, the soil, the rain.  
Thank you for the food and water and for all that you give to us. Help us not to be  
greedy and to share with those around us. Amen!***

