

Designing a celebration

As 2011 is the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible, schools may wish to create a celebration. Below are some suggestions; select from these as appropriate. The websites that follow reflect a few of the resources available. Schools are responsible for checking that anyone invited is suitable for their school when contact is made. The author cannot be responsible for the work of these organisations.

A storytelling day

Invite storytellers to come in and tell stories from the Bible. Set up storytelling tents around the school. Puppeteers can also tell stories from the Bible.

www.openthebook.net/ A free programme of volunteers visiting schools, telling Bible stories in assemblies

www.footprintstheatre.co.uk/ A company of performers and storytellers who share and create stories with schools

An 'Explore the Bible' RE day

Book a hands-on RE day for pupils with music and drama, art and dance (depending on the person you book to take the day).

www.barnabasinschools.org.uk/2831.htm#WhatsospecialabouttheBible Barnabus run workshops with Christian themes for primary schools

An artist/poet/musician/writer in residence day

Invite an artist to work with pupils for the day drawing inspiration from the Bible. Poets, writers and musicians also do residencies and workshops with pupils drawing inspiration from the Bible.

www.paulcooksonpoet.co.uk/ Paul Cookson is a poet who visits and performs in schools

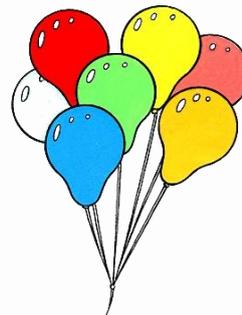
www.artistsinschools.co.uk Provide artist run workshops for schools

A Bible drama day

Invite an actor to work with pupils creating dramas based on the Bible. Look for groups in your area. The following groups do this type of work:

www.saltminetrust.org.uk Christian theatre company working in schools. Look under 'Theatre Company' then 'primary'

www.footprintstheatre.co.uk Christian theatre company who do performances and run workshops





A Bible dance day

A number of highly creative companies run dance workshops for schools using the Bible for inspiration.

www.morethandance.co.uk/education.html An experienced schools dance company that makes dance enjoyable for all

www.springsdancecompany.org.uk/education/primary/ A leading Christian dance group providing workshops performances and assemblies

Book-week Bible day

Use the Bible as part of your focus for book week. Have fun dressing as appropriate Bible characters, making different styles of books for Bible stories, using puppets and storytellers.

Book a Christian clown

'Holy Fools' is a group of Christian clowns. Some, like Roly Bain, are ordained ministers and take assemblies for schools.

www.rolybain.co.uk/ Award winning clown whose routines all have a Christian basis. Performs in schools

www.holy-fools.org.uk This site explains 'Holy Fools' and has lots of advice about storytelling and puppets.

A Bible fancy dress party

A Bible people fancy dress party: explore some *appropriate* characters from stories you have done in RE and arrange simple costumes. This can include animals such as sheep from a parable. Pupils can devise games on biblical themes. A cake can have 400 written on it or use candles to do this (one 4 and two 0s, not 400 small candles!).

Bible quiz

Create a Bible quiz based on appropriate television models where people can 'phone a friend' or ask the audience. Pupils can help write the questions resulting from work they do on the Bible.

Link with a local church

Make links with a local church and work with them on arranging an interactive visit where pupils can hear the Bible in song, in poetry, storytelling. They can see the Bible in stained glass, texts on walls, in textiles and carvings. Church members can dress up as characters from the Bible and tell stories. There can be displays about the Bible and interviews with Christians about the role of the Bible in their life. In some churches, workshops can be set up for making banners based on texts from the Bible.