

Meet the Curtis family

Introduction

Spend a little time sharing special books; both adults and pupils can do this. Explain to the pupils that they will be finding out about a family and their very important (sacred) book called the Bible.

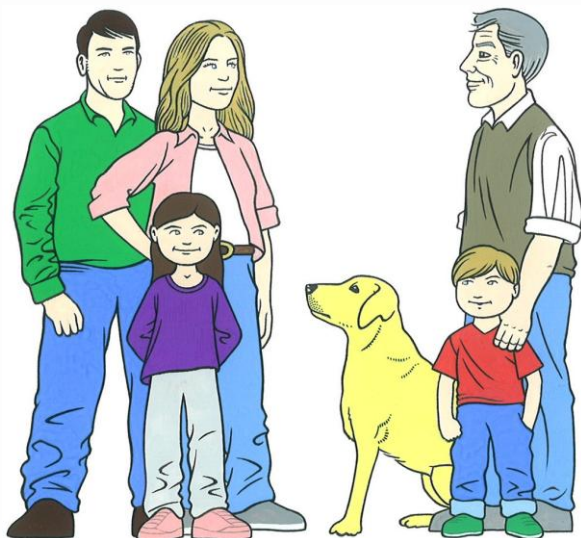
Select from the following activities:

1. Meet the Curtis family

Introduce the pupils to the Curtis family using the presentation *Meet the Curtis family*. Use the notes in this section to comment on the PowerPoint.

Slides 2 and 3

Ask the class what they can see in the pictures. Introduce all the members of the family, including pets, by rolling over the images to find out about them.



This is Ben and Eva and their family. Mum is called Jania and she is from Poland, Dad is called Paul and Grandad Joe lives with them.

Find out their dog's name by rolling over the dog.

Look for Ben and Eva's favourite toys, games and colours.



Slide 4

Explain that the Curtis family are Christians and they believe in God and Jesus. As a family they go to St Mark's church. They go on Sundays to worship. The grown-ups stay in the main church, the children go to Sunday Club upstairs.

Slide 5

Ben and Eva like going to Sunday club at church. They have friends they meet there each week. At Sunday club Ben and Eva listen to stories from the Bible, do activities and watch DVDs of Bible stories. Sometimes they dress up and act the stories. As part of Sunday club they pray, sing songs and share what they have been doing during the week.

Slide 6

Ben and Eva have Bibles with pictures. Eva can read some of the stories. Eva and Ben were given their Bibles by Grandad. He took them to the shop and let them choose. Their parents read them stories from the Bible at bedtime. Eva will soon be able to read stories to Ben. Mum, Jania, has a modern Bible, Grandad Joe has a very old Bible, called a King James Bible. It does not have pictures but it does have lovely gold edges and the words are very beautiful. He reads his Bible every day. If he is lonely he reads about God always being with him. If he wants to know about how to behave, he reads the stories and teaching of Jesus such as 'Treat other people in the way you want to be treated.' Sometimes Grandad reads stories from his Bible to Ben and Eva.

Slide 7

Explain that Bibles like Grandad's were first made 400 years ago on the instructions of King James. The family is celebrating Grandad's Bible being 400 years old.



Note: the time span is difficult for this age group, just communicate an impression of age.

Print pictures of Ben and Eva from the PowerPoint and use them as talking points with the pupils.

2. Music**Eva and Ben's Bible Song** (Sung to *Away in a Manger*)

The Bible is special – it tells about God, and all about Jesus who came to show love. The stories of Jesus say God cares for all; He cares for each person no matter how small.

This song can be introduced as a song that Ben and Eva sing in church. Untuned instruments can be available for pupils to use to accompany it. Add some signs with the songs

www.makaton.org The Makaton charity's website

www.christiansigns.co.uk/public/search.php
Database of signs associated with Christian worship, useful for teachers

www.britishsignlanguage.com/ Moving pictures for basic signs

What does this song tell us about the Bible and why it is important to Christians such as Ben and Eva?

3. Language

Display a range of Bibles:

- Different adult versions, one of which should be the King James Bible.
- Children's Bibles with good illustrations, appropriate for the age group. If possible buy the class a new children's Bible as part of the celebration of the King James Bible.
- Bibles in different scripts and languages if possible.

Show pupils how to handle a Bible carefully as it is an important/sacred book (keep it clean, don't tear it or scribble on it). Encourage pupils to look at the different Bibles and see what is similar and what is different. Look at the same story in more than one Bible.

Explain that all the Bibles tell the same stories, but some are in harder words for grown ups. Show the King James Bible (Grandad's Bible), explain that it is very old and this year is its 400th birthday, so lots of Christians, like Ben and Eva, are having a celebration.

4. Making puppets

Pupils can make a hand puppet of a member of the Curtis family. See the download **Puppet template**.

Photocopy the puppet shape onto thick paper for each pupil. Each puppet can be glued around the edges.

Give pupils a range of materials of different textures and colours to create their puppet such as shredded tissue paper for hair.

Faces can be drawn on and names added.

Using what they have learned about the Curtis family, going to church and the Bible, pupils can write sentences that their puppet can say.

Once written, pupils can speak their sentences using their puppet.

Pupil questions about the Bible can be asked and answered through the puppets. (The teacher can either have their own puppets or use the pupils'.)

5. Celebration/Reflection

Share some cake or other celebration food (check for allergies etc.). Explain that the class are having some special foods as it is a special time. This year Christians are celebrating the 400th birthday of the King James Bible. You may want to use some of the ideas on **Celebration ideas**. Ask pupils to think about important events that they celebrate.

