**Messy Church – July 2022**

**Holidays**

The activities are:

1. Where you go –
   1. drawing pictures
   2. making a collage
2. What you do –
   1. Rock pools and beaches – paper plate aquarium
   2. Walking – foot shapes – draw round your shoes
   3. Climbing – pipe cleaner people on a rock face
   4. Sightseeing – magazine picture collage
   5. Games – kite picture
3. What you eat –
   1. Make a picture of candy floss
   2. String picture of an ice cream
   3. Ask mum or dad to buy one item of “holiday” food, if possible

**Stories and Activities**

**1 Where you go**

**a: drawing pictures**

**You will need:** paper, pencils, crayons

Draw somewhere you like to go on holiday – it doesn’t have to be a picture of a real place, just the sort of place you like to go.

**b: collage**

**You will need:** paper, glue, scissors, pictures from magazines of the sort of place or places you like to go on holiday

Cut out the pictures you like, and stick them on the paper. See if you can cover the whole of the background paper with pictures.

**Talk about:** the sort of places you like to go, and why.

**2 What you do on holiday**

**a: rock pools and beaches, coral reefs**

**You will need:** a paper plate, paint, glue, sand, small pebbles, tissue or crepe paper in green, pink and orange, sea shells, googly eyes, black felt tip pen, the picture also on the website. (If you don’t have sand, pebbles or sea shells, improvise! Look at the picture, and think how you could make the shapes in other ways – for example, for the sea shells, you could finely pleat paper, cut it in a curve, and fan it out from one end)

Paint two thirds of the top of a paper plate blue using acrylic paint. Leave to dry.

Cover the bottom third with PVA glue then cover the glue with yellow sand. Leave for a minute, then shake off the excess sand. Leave to dry. (you could use yellow paint here if you don’t have sand!)

Choose two mini scallop shells to create the fish. Paint the triangular base ends of the shells with a bright colour acrylic paint to create the fish tails. Leave to dry.

Select two pebbles to use as a fin on each fish. Paint the pebbles the same colours as the tails. Leave to dry. (could you use pieces of egg box here?)

Glue a painted pebble onto the middle of one of the fish shell. Leave to dry. Repeat with the second pebble on the other shell. Leave to dry.

Stick a googly eye onto each fish. Draw a mouth on each fish using a thin black pen.

Place a line of glue around the underneath edge of one of the fish and stick to the plate. Leave to dry. Repeat this step with the other fish.

To make the seaweed, take some green tissue paper and cut into lots of strips roughly 10cm long, and twist together at one end. Glue the tissue paper bunch to the bottom of the plate on the sandy section. Create another tissue paper bunch and glue it on. Leave to dry.

To make the coral, take some pink and orange tissue paper and cut into lots of strips roughly 6cm long. Twist the strips into sausage shapes and glue to the sand on the plate. Leave to dry.

Stick pebbles at the base of the seaweed and coral, to add detail to the sea bed. Leave to dry. Paint small white circles onto the plate by the mouths of the fish to create bubbles. Leave to dry.

If you want to make your picture more like a coral reef than an aquarium, make more coral and less seaweed, and you won’t need so many pebbles either.

If you want to make your picture more like a rock pool, you might want to paint the bottom part of the plate a dark brown, and perhaps use more pebbles, and no coral.

Play around with the ideas and see what you can do – send us pictures of what you make!

**b: Walking**

**You will need:** paper, pencil, felt tip pens, a long length of lining paper, or continuous printer paper, scissors, glue

Draw round both your feet, in your shoes, and cut out the shapes – cut out more than one of each. Stick your “footprints” along the long paper – you could colour the scenery you like along the sides.

**c: Climbing**

**You will need:** a very large stone, pipe cleaners, string, scissors, glue, tin snips and an adult to use them

Use the pipe cleaners to make people. If you are making the people small, you will need an adult to cut the pipe cleaners down to size. One pipe cleaner then makes on person.

Bend one pipe-cleaner in half, make a loop at the bend, and then twist the two halves together for about half the length of what is below the loop. Bend the second pipe-cleaner lightly in thirds. Twist the middle third of the pipe-cleaner several times around the body you have already made, so that the ends stick out to make the arms. Bend the ends of the legs to make feet.

Tie string around the waists of your people, and glue the other ends of the string to the rock, so that the people hang down the side of the rock, as if they are climbing using rope.

**d: Sightseeing collage**

**You will need:** paper, glue, scissors, pictures from magazines of places you might like to go and see – London, Paris, Australia, India (where would you like to go?)

Cut out the pictures you like, and stick them on the paper. See if you can cover the whole of the background paper with pictures.

**e: Games**

**You will need:** for the paper spring, two strips of paper, glue, instructions (available on the website). For the picture, pretty paper (or plain paper and felt tip pens, string, ribbon, scissors, glue, cotton wool, (and there is a picture of a finished example with the paper spring instructions)

Draw, colour, and cut out the kite shape. Stick one end of the paper spring to the back of the kite, and the other end to the paper. If you are using ribbon or string for its tail, stick this to the paper so that it looks as though it is stuck to the bottom point of the kite, and stick string under the upper part so that it looks as though it runs from the cross piece underneath the kite (see the picture below). Glue cotton wool into empty spaces for clouds.

Use a hair dryer, or blow across the paper to make the kite move.

**Talk about:** what you do to relax, and the difference between relaxing and working – some things are work for one person and relaxing for another!

**3 What you eat on holiday**

**a: Candy floss**

**You will need:** paper, felt tip pens or colouring pencils, cotton wool, very dilute pink paint

Draw candy floss on a stick (if you have a stick, you could stick this to the paper). Paint glue onto the paper where the candy floss itself would be, dip the cotton wool in the dilute paint and put it on the glue.

**b: String picture**

**You will need:** a print out of the template (on the website) (or draw your own), large-headed pins, yarn or coloured string, or coloured heavy thread, double-sided sticky tape, a polystyrene sheet or heavy duty corrugated cardboard. There is a picture of a finished string picture on the website.

Print out the ice cream template.

Use double sided tape on each edge of the template sheet to stick the ice cream template onto the polystyrene or cardboard.

Press pins into the polystyrene at even points around the ice cream template, making sure there is a pin in every point/corner, and along the boundary between the cone and the ice cream, and around the cherry. The pins should be pushed about two thirds of the way in, so there is enough room left to wrap the string around it. Be careful when using the pins – ask an adult for some help if you need to. The pins should not go right through the base, but should be firm enough not to move.

Take some ice-cream coloured thread and tie a knot around one of the pins in the ice cream section of the design. Make sure you leave about 2-3 inches of thread at the end, as you will need this later.

Try not to pull the thread too tight as you do the next bit, as you might pull the pins out of the backing.

Wrap the thread around each pin in this section, making sure it crosses over the ice cream in different directions. Try to make sure each pin has been used at least once.

Wrap the thread around the outside of the ice cream section, then take it back to the pin you started with and tie a knot with the end of the thread that you left.

Repeat the threading using a different coloured thread in the cone section.

Repeat the threading using red thread in the cherry section.

Take a piece of green thread a tie it around one of the pins in the cherry stalk section. Wrap it around the two pins a couple of times and then tie the ends together.

Trim the ends of the thread to finish.

**c: Eat some “holiday” food for your tea**

Ask your mum or dad if you can have a “holiday” treat for tea!

**Talk about:** why you eat some food only when you are on holiday, and some food you eat quite often. What is different about the holiday food

**Celebration**

Song My God is so big, so strong and so mighty <https://youtu.be/Aq1ZIC4lsEw>

A sandy beach with people on it

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceAt the very beginning of the Bible there is the story of God making the world. One of the things we can learn from that story is that after God did all the work, he took a day off to rest. Rest is very important to people. The Jews used this seventh day, the Sabbath, as their day to spend just on worshipping God and very much not working. The Sabbath was to be a Holy Day, which is where our word “Holiday” comes from. We all need holidays. Tina and I are on holiday now. We are at the seaside. This is a picture of the beach which we took last time we went there. Do you have a favourite holiday place? Would you like to make a picture of it? You could draw it, or you might like to make a collage. If you were making a picture of a beach, you could use scraps of blue material for the sky, real sand for the beach, green tissue for grass, and so on.

Song Jesus’ love is very wonderful <https://youtu.be/WcgplHIntJc>

By Jesus’ day, some people had got to thinking that the Sabbath was so important that it had to have a whole lot of rules to protect it and stop people working on it. Some of the rules were quite weird. Jesus got into trouble because he healed someone on the Sabbath, and he said, “The Sabbath was made for people, not people for the Sabbath!” He knew that people needed rest, but that people also needed healing. What do you do on your holiday? Do you walk, swim, cycle, climb, sunbathe, build sandcastles, play games, fly kites? What are your favourite things? You could make a kite picture, or even try to make a real kite.

Alternatively, you could make a rockpool picture.

Do you like to eat Ice cream? You can make a string picture of a cornet.

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for giving us time to rest and relax.

Amen

Song Who put the colours in the rainbow <https://youtu.be/l9GsKFIaRo0>

Enjoy our celebration.

Then have tea or a treat if it isn’t tea time!

If you send me pictures of anything you do, I will share them on the Church Facebook page (if you want to send pictures that you don’t want shared, just tell me. I’ll only share the ones you’re happy to share.)

Harlington Messy Church Team

This month we’re just on YouTube, on the Harlington Methodist Church YouTube Channel. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTMWR_QCxujkh1zHjTFcoJw/videos>