



Prayer Space Instructions: Primary 3rd Prayer Space

During your time within the Prayer and Reflection Space the chances are that you will, at some point, have to explain one or more of the prayer and reflection activities. At each activity, there will be a short instruction card which explains the purpose of the activity. The text for these instruction cards has been included below so that you will have an idea of the different activities before you arrive. Please do not feel that you have to learn these, though!

During each session, you will be stationed at a particular prayer and reflection zone. As each group is directed towards you by the Prayer and Reflection Space leader, you will need to welcome them (ask their names) and encourage them to explore the activity. Depending on the age and ability of the students you may need to explain the activity to them again or help them by scribing their response to an activity. We would always encourage the Prayer and Reflection Space volunteers to interact with students as much as they think is necessary. Some students may want to quietly explore the activity by themselves, whilst others may be happy to just chat with you for the whole time, it is important that they are made to feel welcome in doing either. When talking with the students please use the language '*Many Christians believe...*' or '*As a Christian I believe...*'. Please do not pray with individual students or do any kind of corporate group prayer.

1) Invisible Ink

"I wish I hadn't..." "I'm sorry I..." "I didn't mean to..." How would you finish these sentences?

All of us have done things we regret, or wish we could change.
Maybe you feel like you want a fresh start?

Christians believe that when they say sorry to God, he forgives them and gives them a fresh start.

If you would like to, use the pens to write the word 'sorry' on your paper. As you dip this into the water and watch it disappearing, think or pray about how great it feels to be forgiven and ask for help to avoid doing this again. Then hang up your paper with everyone else's. (You don't need to ask students what they are sorry for or to ask them to explain their thoughts)

2) Thank you Scratch Cards

A) Thank You (People)

Who are you thankful for? Why are they important to you?

There are lots of people that we meet that have a positive effect on our lives, who help us out or treat us kindly or love us. Think about someone that's important to you, it might be your best friend or your teacher, one of your parents or a grandparent, your brother or sister, or someone completely different!

Perhaps you'd like to spend some time thinking about or praying for that person. As you do so, draw or write about them on a scratch card as a prayer or reflection.

B) Thank You (General)

What are you thankful for?

There are many wonderful things to be thankful for in our world. Christians like to thank God for these things. We can be thankful for physical things like cars, food, homes, water, games consoles, clothes, holidays... We can also be thankful for spiritual things like friendships, peace, happiness, love, hope, kindness...

If you would like to, write about or draw something or someone that you are thankful for on a scratch card as a prayer or reflection.

3) Please Aqua Beads

Sit down and make yourself comfy. Pick up a bead and hold it carefully in your hand.

What's on your mind? What are you hoping for? What are you wishing for? If you want to, you can say a 'please' prayer, thought or wish about what's on your mind, either out loud or in your head.

When you're done, place your bead into the bowl along with everyone else's.

Christians believe that God hears every prayer, even the ones that we think are small or silly.

4) Our Communities

How do you feel about where you live or where you go to school?

How can you make your school community, or where you live, a better place?

We meet lots of people during our day...this might be our families, our friends, our classmates, our teachers, people who live near us, people who work in the shop nearby. Everyone around us has needs. Christians believe that they need to help people and places around them, by looking out for what they need.

Think of someone in your community that you'd like to pray for or think about, perhaps they need help or encouragement. Or this could be a place in your community that needs improving. Write a prayer, thought or a wish for them on a post-it note and place it in the window outline on the card building.