

Bible background

Mark 10:46-52

Aim of lesson

To show that Jesus has the power to heal, and to encourage the class to appreciate the gift of sight.

Preparation required

You will need blindfold or bags, colouring materials, glue, straws or pulses. And a selection of objects to feel.

Suggested outline of lesson

1. If you have plenty of time and room you could begin with a game of 'Blind Man's Bluff'. If confined, have some of the children blindfolded in turn and give them objects to guess what they are, or sew objects into bags or put them under a sheet so they can be felt but not seen. Be aware of children that don't like to be blindfolded.
2. Discuss with the children the things they could not do if they were blind and the things they could not see. Encourage them to appreciate having eyesight. Help the children to understand that in Jesus' time there was not the help for blind people that there is today, and that many blind people would have to beg in order to pay for food and a home.
3. Describe Jesus meeting and healing a blind man called Bartimaeus. During the story ask the children how they think Bartimaeus felt before he knew Jesus was coming, when he knew and after he was healed.
4. Teach the song 'I Can See'.
5. Ask the children to complete the worksheets.

Alternative activities

1. Paint/draw/make models of things we are glad we can see, e.g. favourite places, animals, family, friends.
2. Look closely at eyes in small hand mirrors or look at each other's eyes. Encourage the children to describe what they see. Prepare some large size outlines of eye shapes. Let the children colour them in. Encourage them to use the correct colours for each part.

Relevance to the children's lives

Ask the children if they know anyone who is blind. Discuss ways of helping blind people, by helping them to find things or telling them a story since they cannot see the words or pictures in a book. Ask how a blind person would feel if children ride their bicycles fast along the pavement. Stress that Jesus and his Father are pleased when we help blind people, just as Jesus did.

Prayer

Ask each one to say why they are most glad that they can see. Have each child say a prayer saying 'Thank you that I can see...' adding the things they are most pleased to be able to see.

Verse

'The Lord gives sight to the blind.' Psalm 146:8.

Song

I Can See (Tune: Thank You, Jesus)



Thank you, Jesus; thank you, Jesus.
 Thank you, Lord, that I can see.
 Thank you, Jesus, thank you, Jesus.
 Thank you, Lord, that I can see.

Music and original words: Cop con.