

Bible background

Acts 2

Aim of lesson

To show how God's power helped the apostles to teach people about Jesus.

Preparation required

You will need a large piece of paper and crayons and pencils for the class list about Jesus.

Suggested outline of lesson

1. If you can, sit your class round a table to set the scene of the apostles in the house. Tell how the Holy Spirit, God's special power, came as wind and fire, and explain how it made the apostles able to speak in different languages to tell people about God.
2. Go on to tell the children how God's power helped Peter to stand up in front of a large crowd and talk about what God had done and said. It is enough to explain that Peter told the people: (a) that God knew beforehand everything that would happen; (b) that Jesus, whom the Jews had killed, was God's own Son, and God had raised him from the dead; (c) that God wants everyone to believe in him and be baptised.
3. Tell the children that when Peter had finished speaking, about 3,000 people were baptised.
4. Ask the children what they would tell people who asked about Jesus. Make a class list, either written or in pictures, of what the children would like to tell people about Jesus.

Alternative activities

1. Cut some flame shapes from sponge and do some printing.
2. Draw around one of your pupils and then get everyone to help paint, colour or stick on features, hair and clothes. Then, make a flame to go above the head of your 'disciple' – either print, paint or get the children to help stick on tissue paper or shiny paper.
3. Teach the children how to say hello in different languages. If you have a tape recorder you could record them saying hello to each other and then play it back.
4. Circle time/game could be used as in last week's lesson.

Relevance to the children's lives

1. God is with us and will help us if we try to do what is right. Discuss the situations when we might need God's help and how God might help us.
2. Think about all the people who, like Peter, wrote the Bible. (Refer to the letters he wrote.) We are like the people in Jerusalem who hear (read) what the apostles tell us and should obey.

Prayer

Thank God that we can learn about Jesus today.

Verse

'Go... and preach the good news to all creation.' Mark 16:15.