

Our second “Little Day Out” event took place on Thursday 15th May 2014 at Kilfennan Presbyterian Church in Londonderry.

The aim:

An event for children aged 0-4 years to come and learn about Jesus and the feeding of the 5000 through story, craft, games and songs and then to have a picnic together with the teddy bears.

Objectives:

- To run a fun event for up to 100 children aged 0-4 years, accompanied by a responsible adult.
- To tell the story of the feeding of the 5000 and for the children to see that our God is a great big God.
- To make the resources for this event available for anyone to replicate it.
- To fill 2 hours with fun activities that the majority of the children attending would be able to participate in.
- To create an event that can be easily replicated in any church or manse grounds without too much difficulty.
- To use music in a way that children could learn through repetition a song that would reinforce the main teaching point.

Included for your use:

- Programme of event
- Story used
- Craft used
- Snacks made available
- Publicity that can be adapted for use
- Evaluation of what we did and what could be done differently

Programme:

The programme was set up to incorporate 4 zones that were easily managed and moved between by the children and adults.

1. Story zone

This zone told the story of the feeding of the 5000 using some visual aids and music

Equipment:

- Individual pictures of 5 loaves and 2 fish that we A4 sized and in bright colours.
- A PA system/iPod dock that allowed music to be played for the children to sing along to and to learn a new song.

2. Craft zone

The children made necklaces that had 5 loaves and 2 fish strung on to them.

Equipment:

- String/embroidery thread
- Pasta shapes
- Cut out fish shapes
- Coloured pens/crayons

3. Games zone

In this zone there were simple games set up for the children to participate in like put the bean bag in the bucket, carry the container around the cones, put the ball in the frog's mouth, parachute games

Equipment:

- Cones, bean bag, frogs mouths etc.
- Small size parachute

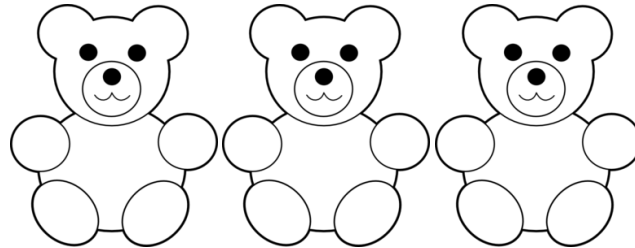
Each group moved around each of the above zones in groups of 20 children or less so that none of the groups was too large to deal with at one time.

4. Picnic zone

The picnic zone was done at the end and was the chance to get everyone together to sing some songs, remind them what they had been learning and to end the event well and then share a picnic together. A mixture of nursery rhymes and the song the children had learnt in the story zone "Our God is a great big God" were sung, followed by a short prayer.

The children and adults were spread all over the hall, sitting on picnic rugs with their teddy bears. The picnic was put on individual plates and distributed by the helpers to the children. A tea and coffee trolley was set up at one end for the adults to help themselves with traybakes also available.

The groups who attended were divided into 3 to match the zones and then designated a coloured teddy bear sticker to give them a group identity. The group then had a host who was one of our volunteers who had a timetable for their group to know which zone to go to at which time.



BLUE

<u>TIME</u>	<u>BLUE</u>
10.00 am	Registration
10.15 -10.35 am	Craft Zone - Sports Hall
10.40 -11.00 am	Story Zone - Committee Room
11.05 -11.25 am	Games Zone - Back of Church
11.30 -12.00 pm	Picnic and songs to finish – Sports Hall
12.00 pm	Event ends

GREEN

<u>TIME</u>	<u>GREEN</u>
10.00 am	Registration
10.15 - 10.35 am	Story Zone – Committee Room
10.40 - 11.00 am	Games Zone – Back of Church
11.05 – 11.25 am	Craft Zone – Sports Hall
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RED

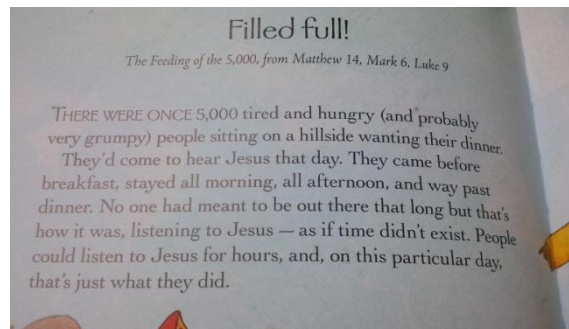
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Pricing:

We charged £3 each for a child and an adult but the pricing will depend very much on what you choose to do in terms of resources and food. This covered our costs but this can be worked out on an individual location basis.

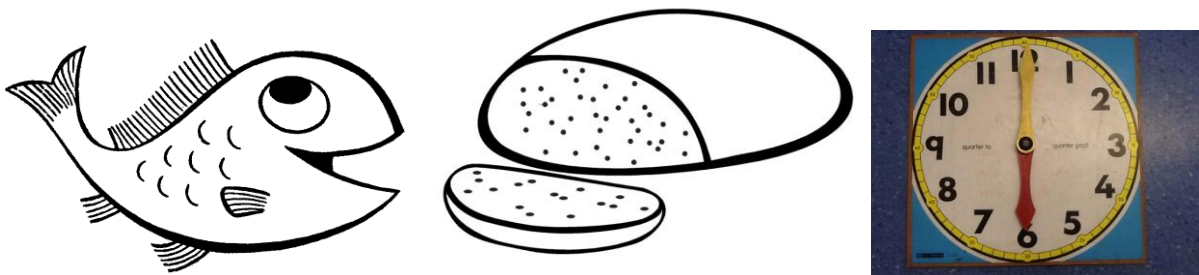
Teddy Bear's Picnic Story zone

The story of the feeding of the 5000 was told using the Jesus Storybook Bible as guidance but with this age group and a group of approximately 20 children, it is better to not just read the story but to tell it while having the story available for reference.



Main point of the story – that our God is a great big God. He performs miracles to show who He is and because He loves us.

The visuals used during the story:



Programme for the 20minute story zone:

- Children arrive in to room, ask to see their teddy bears
- Sing 2 songs that they will know well (we used The wheels on the bus and If you're happy and you know it)
- Tell story using the visual aids and a clock to help them think about the time passing
- Teach them "Our God is a great Big God" with some of the actions to sing at the end of the event.

Teddy Bear's Picnic Craft zone

In this zone, the children made necklaces to remind them that Jesus used the 5 loaves and 2 fish to feed the 5000 people who were there listening to Him on the mountainside.



This is a photo of the craft that the children did during the 20 minute slot. It was very simple to make and quick to put together but was a good reminder to take home and also good for their finer motor skills in terms of threading the items on to the string.

This was a very minimally costing zone.

What people said who attended the event:

We were not sure what to expect but we really enjoyed the morning.

The games were perfect for the age group that were here.

We loved the event. Our group runs on a different day and so not very many could come today but we want others to know what it was like so we are going to run it in the manse grounds for the people who could not come today.

Thank you for coming to the northwest to run Little Day Out.

We do not have very many things like this so thank you for coming to do it here.