

Here are some suggested activities that might be used in RE lessons to support pupils' understanding of the GenR8 presentation this term.

Key theme: *For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.* Ephesians 2 v 10.

Engaging and Enquiring

Look at images of the world around us. Consider the wonder of creation. Pupils might consider words to describe it.

Consider what makes something a 'masterpiece'. Pupils could create mind maps showing different ideas about 'masterpieces'.

Consider how it feels to make something really special. Consider how it might feel to create a 'masterpiece'.

Show the pupils different images of 'masterpieces' e.g. works of art, creation, sculpture, music and so on. Ask the children to rank them, and/or create criteria for what makes something a 'masterpiece'.

Consider how farmers care for their sheep – what sorts of things do they need to provide to keep the sheep safe and well?

Ask the pupils to think of one thing that they are good at and perhaps create a display of all of their ideas to show the amazing variety of talents children have.

Exploring

There are three biblical texts used or referred to in the GenR8 presentation:

- Ephesians 2 v 10 (New Living Translation) – We are God's masterpiece
- Luke 15 v 1-7 – The Parable of the Lost Sheep
- Psalm 139 v 1-16 – The adapted version used in the assembly is below

It is suggested that one or more of these texts is explored in depth using a range of strategies such as:

- Role Play
- Retelling and recounting either in written form or in pictures
- Paraphrasing and summarising
- Using different translations of the same passage to compare and analyse
- Creating a storyboard
- Evaluating the impact of the texts on the lives of Christians
- Considering the meaning of each passage, possibly ranking or creating a diamond-nine of possible meanings

Expressing

Pupils might create one or more of the following outcomes to show an understanding of the biblical texts and their meaning for Christians today:

- Create a poem called 'Masterpiece' based on one or more of the texts
- Create a picture called 'Masterpiece' using items from the natural world which illustrates Psalm 139
- Write their own Psalm (individually or in groups) called 'Masterpiece', using the structural conventions of Psalm writing.
- Create a poster for a new film called 'God's Masterpiece'. Consider who might star in the film, where it might be set, a rough plot and so on, using what they have learned to help them.

Ask the pupils to retell or recount the story of the lost sheep in a way that suits their individual aptitudes and preferences, for example:

prose writing, poetry, role play, drawing, model making, computer animation, creating a storyboard, lego.

Younger pupils could choose either simple pictures or writing with the results displayed next to each other showing complementary skills.

Encourage the pupils to think about how they can use their talents to be kind and caring to someone else, doing good things. For example:

- Drawing / art – make a card or picture for someone
- Writing – write a letter
- Washing up – help to wash up
- Playing ball games – invite someone on their own to play with them

Adapted version of Psalm 139, used with BSL by the GenR8 team

(modified from a version by Barnabas for Schools)

Wow, God! You know me through and through!
You care about each thing I do.
You see me sleep each night and work each day.
You know each thing I think and say.
You keep me safe wherever I go.
There's nothing about me you don't know.
You put me together, each part in its place.
Before I was born you knew my face.
You made me a masterpiece: I don't know how, God.
You made me a masterpiece: I just say 'Wow, God'!