



The Story God Is Writing

EXPEDITION TITLE

The Story God Is Writing

Expedition Driving Question:

How do I live in God's story by reflecting God's love in my community and the world around me?

Expedition Deep Hope:

We will interact with God's love in the context of our community and the world by looking at the story God is writing.

Expedition Verse:

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." —John 13:34-35

LEARNING PLAN TITLE

We Are Better Together

Learning Plan Number: 5

Learning Targets:

1. I can recognize my role in God's story.
2. I can be part of the larger community and bring something to the Body of Christ.

Habit(s) of Learning:

Curious Thinking, Joy-filled Collaboration

CUMULATIVE TIME



60-80 MIN

ICON KEY



Learning activities that support your document panel with visual artifacts are indicated by a push-pin and paper icon in the activity title.




Learning activities connected with sponsored children are indicated by a helping hands icon in the activity title.




Learning activities that support your community engagement project are indicated by a community icon in the activity title.





ENTRY EVENT

ACTIVITY TITLE	TIME	RESOURCES
<i>Go Far, Go Together</i> <i>Engage the Learning Targets (ELT)</i>	 10 min	<input type="checkbox"/> Heavy books
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask for a student volunteer who is willing to help you in front of the class. Say, "I need you to hold this book out in front of you with your palms flat." Wait a few seconds. Ask, "Is it starting feel heavy and get hard?" Add a few more books to the student's stack. If the student wants more books, carefully continue to add books. Continue to add books until the student is tired. Repeat this process with several students. Share, "When we try to do things on our own, it may seem easy at first, but we may become tired and worn out from working so hard. When we work with others in school, at church, in our community as God has called us to do, the tasks become easier. Let's try our hard task with the books again with others." Ask three to four students to try to hold the books. Say, "The task still looks tricky, but it is easier than one person doing it by themselves. It reminds me of the African proverb that says 'if you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.' What do you think that means?" <i>(Doing things by yourself could be fast, but you can't do it very long. If you do things together, you can do them for a long time and accomplish more.)</i> 		




LEARNING ACTIVITIES

<i>Fill in the Blank</i> <i>Introduce the Learning Targets (ILT)</i>	 5 min	<input type="checkbox"/> Posted learning targets
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Write the learning targets, but leave black spaces where the words 'God's', 'community' and Christ' should be. Invite students to try to guess the missing words. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>I can recognize my part in ____ story. (God's)</u> <u>I can be part of the larger ____ and bring something to the Body of _____. (community, Christ)</u> "Who can remind me what our deep hope for the expedition is?" (Our deep hope is that we will interact with God's love in the context of our community and the world by looking at the story God is writing.) Share that our learning targets connect to our deep hope because God wants us to love our community and recognize that we have a story to tell, too. 		




ACTIVITY TITLE	TIME	RESOURCES
<p><i>The Body of Christ</i> </p> <p><i>Engage the Learning Targets (ELT)</i></p>	 15-25 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Bibles <input type="checkbox"/> Photograph of the teacher <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Potato Head <input type="checkbox"/> 2.5.a Student Material
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite students to open their Bibles to Genesis 1:27 and read it together. <i>“So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.”</i> • Ask if students know what an image is. Hold up a photograph of yourself. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Say, “Is this photograph actually me? No, it is only a picture of me. The photograph cannot think or talk. The photograph only shows what I look like. It is my ‘image.’ This is just like what the Bible says, we are created in God’s image. The Bible does not say that we are God, rather it means that we are supposed to reflect him and what he is like.” • Hold up a Mr. Potato Head toy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Share, “Do you know what it is? (<i>Mr. Potato Head.</i>) I am going to change how he looks.” • Put the body parts in the wrong spots. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Share, “How does he look now? I don’t think it will work to have his arms coming out of the top of his head or his eyes on the side of his head. Mr. Potato Head’s body reminds me of when we don’t work together. The Bible reminds us that we need to work together with others to be the Body of Christ.” • Read Romans 12:4-5. <i>“For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.”</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Say, “Many different people make up the Body of Christ and each person has important work to do to live their part in God’s story.” • Put Mr. Potato Head together correctly. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask, “Look again at Mr. Potato Head- each part of his body is important in some way. Why does he need his ears?” (<i>To hear.</i>) “Why does he need his feet?” (<i>To walk and move.</i>) “Why does he need his hat?” (<i>to protect him from the sun and rain</i>) 2. Say, “Similarly when we look at the Body of Christ, each person has important work to do for Christ and together we can do so much more for Christ. Each of you are going to fill out an idea catcher and then we will discuss it.” • Invite students to fill out their idea catcher, helping them see that in order for them to have many needs met, they needed others to support them. Highlight a few examples from the idea catcher together, such as, “How would you feel if no one provided food for you today?” (<i>Hungry, worried.</i>) Explain that since we are all a part of the Body of Christ, we all need to work together. <p>Note: Take a copy of one students’ idea catcher and display on the document panel.</p>		



ACTIVITY TITLE	TIME	RESOURCES
Paper Hands   <i>Reflect the Learning Targets (RLT)</i>	 25-30 min	<input type="checkbox"/> World Vision website <input type="checkbox"/> A paper for each student to trace two hands
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invite students to trace and cut out two paper hands. Have students log into their sponsored child's World Vision website. Click on the child's town name, scroll to the bottom of the page and find the orange tab that says 'Love of God and Neighbors.' Have students read through the information. Students will take one of their paper hands and record on the hand one way their sponsored child's community is working together to reflect God's image. Students will take the second paper hand and record one way they are working together to reflect God's image. Note: Tape these hands to the students' desk as a reminder of how they and their sponsored child are both reflecting God's image and have a role to play in God's story. 		

EXIT EVENT

Expedition Verse Reflection <i>Assess the Learning Targets (ALT)</i>	 5-10 min	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gather the students into a circle by the document panel. Read the driving scripture verse together: John 13:34-35, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." Ask the question: "Why is this verse important?" (God wants us to be a community filled with love.) Take student responses and ask a student to close your learning in prayer. 		
LEARNING EXPEDITION VISUAL GENERATED THROUGH THE LEARNING PLAN ADD TO DOCUMENT PANEL		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Idea Catcher (one student copy: you won't have room for every student's idea catcher.) Tape students' two hands to their desk. 		
OPPORTUNITY TO DEEPEN THE LEARNING		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trace an outline of a student on butcher paper. In connection with the Body of Christ, we all have been given different God given talents and abilities. Have the students brainstorm their talents, hobbies, skills, and abilities and have them write them throughout the traced body. Label the paper "We are Better Together." World Vision's Bible Storybook: God's Love for You by Rich and Renee Stearns, "Building Together" (pg 116-117). 		