



Exploring the Roots

EXPEDITION TITLE

Exploring the Roots

Expedition Driving Question:

What's behind all this?

Expedition Deep Hope:

That by curiously exploring the root causes of poverty, we would live out healthy, healing relationships with God and our neighbors.

Expedition Verse:

"And I am praying that you will put into action the generosity that comes from your faith as you understand and experience all the good things we have in Christ. Your love has given me much joy and comfort, my brother, for your kindness has often refreshed the hearts of God's people." —Philemon 1:6-7

LEARNING PLAN TITLE

God and Our Neighbors

Learning Plan Number: 2

Learning Targets:

1. I can celebrate God's intention for us as neighbors
2. I can open my heart to a new neighbor

Habit(s) of Learning:

Curious Thinking: We are open to new ways of understanding and considering others

CUMULATIVE TIME



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
Opening Reflection Engage the Learning Targets (ELT)	 5 min	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As students settle in to their places, welcome them, then ask them to consider a question, and write a quiet reflection. Discussion should be kept to a minimum to emphasize the notion of isolation. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Prompt: "Would you still be you if you were in relationship to nobody else? Explain." Ask for student responses after a few minutes. Offer a prayer to transition the class into a consideration of God's intention for us as neighbors 		


LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Key Words Introduce the Learning Targets (ILT)	 5 min	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post the following learning targets in the room: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>I can celebrate God's love and intention for us as neighbors</u> <u>I can open my heart to a new neighbor</u> Ask students to identify the key words in each learning target. Ask students to jot down a question they have about one of the learning targets, and then share it with an elbow partner. 		
We Are Loved by God Engage the Learning Targets (ELT) Reflect on the Learning Targets (RLT)	 15 min	
Collaborative Conversation Protocol: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Place students in groups of three to four In response to a prompt, one student in a group will speak first and give their reaction The remaining group members should take turns responding to the initial response Have students continue to build on each contribution (encourage "Yes, and..." responses) Occasionally reset the activity with a new prompt 		

Continued ...



- Refresh students' memory of the biblical story of Joseph, who was sold into slavery by his brothers, and imprisoned for a crime he didn't commit (or any another biblical figure who experienced difficult circumstances). Then proceed with the following set of prompts (one at a time):
 1. How could we know that Joseph was loved by God?
 2. How can you know that you are loved by God?
- Invite students to share what their group conversations sounded like. To model this for the students, consider sharing a personal reflection on how you know God loves you, in whatever fashion is authentic and honest for you.

ACTIVITY TITLE	TIME	RESOURCES
<p><i>God's Vision of the Good Life</i></p> <p><i>Engage the Learning Targets (ELT)</i></p> <p><i>Reflect on the Learning Targets (RLT)</i></p>	 20 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> World Vision: 5 Steps to Revolutionize Relationships article: https://www.worldvision.org/christian-faith-news-stories/five-steps-revolutionize-relationships <input type="checkbox"/> Bible
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write on the board: "The biblical story of creation is a story of RELATIONSHIP" • Ask students to guess what this might mean. "What are the relationships that are good and ordained by God in his creation?" • As they work, give them the following scriptural clues: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. John 1:1-4 2. Genesis 1:26-31 3. Genesis 2:18-24 4. Genesis 10:32 • Help the students to land at the following targets: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Triune God is a relationship 2. God's relationship to humankind 3. Our relationship with the environment 4. Our relationship with one another 5. The nations of the earth are created by God • Ask students to partner up and return to the question from learning plan 1 in light of this new understanding: "What are the ingredients of 'the good life' that are embedded in the creation story?" • Ask students to spend five minutes reading the World Vision article "5 Steps to Revolutionize Relationships." Ask the students to write two reflection statements once they've finished the article: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One idea that's starting to come into focus for me is... 2. One question I still have is... • Finish with a "Whiparound" where you quickly go around the room and each student reads one of their statements. You don't need to comment; this is just an opportunity for you and your students to hear the learning and wondering happening around you. • This will be a lovely moment to pivot into what's next... 		



ACTIVITY TITLE	TIME	RESOURCES
<p><i>Connecting with Your Sponsored Child</i> </p> <p>Engage the Learning Targets (ELT)</p> <p>Assess the Learning Targets (ALT)</p>	30 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> If applicable: “World Vision Sponsored Child Welcome Kit” <input type="checkbox"/> A Few Kind Words video: https://youtu.be/vudEo8jfWpl <input type="checkbox"/> World Vision Letter-Writing FAQ: https://www.worldvision.org/sponsor-a-child/support-center/sending-letter-package
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This will be an exciting moment in class: your students’ chance to directly engage their own heart work by learning about their World Vision sponsored child (or re-igniting that relationship). <i>If you have new packets or information about the sponsored children to distribute to the students, consider using this as an opportunity to pray over the documents together. After this, ask students to come up, one at a time, and receive them from you.</i> Invite students to explore any documents they have about their sponsored child, and/or visit the myworldvision.org website and login to read for updates and refresh their memories. Let this be a lively heart moment for the students. Play the World Vision video “A Few Kind Words” to set the table for what comes next. As the video plays, write the following verse on the board: <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“And I am praying that you will put into action the generosity that comes from your faith as you understand and experience all the good things we have in Christ. Your love has given me much joy and comfort, my brother, for your kindness has often refreshed the hearts of God’s people.” –Philemon 1:6-7 (NLT)</i></p> Ask the class: “So, what are the reasons we would write letters of refreshment to our sponsored child?” Allow some time for students to write an email to their sponsored child through the MyWorldVision site. This message should be a simple one of connection/reconnection, encouragement, asking questions, and perhaps a brief personal update. Finish by asking students to pray for their sponsored children, using the language of the second learning target about opened hearts. 		

EXIT EVENT

<p><i>Exit Ticket</i></p> <p>Assess the Learning Targets (ALT)</p>	5 min	<input type="checkbox"/> 8.2.a Student Material: “Exit ticket”
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pass out the exit tickets and ask students to complete them. 		
<p>LEARNING EXPEDITION VISUAL GENERATED THROUGH THE LEARNING PLAN</p> <p>ADD TO DOCUMENT PANEL</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post Philemon 1:6-7 on the document panel 		
<p>OPPORTUNITY TO DEEPEN THE LEARNING</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The letter to the sponsored child could be turned into a homework assignment, to give students an opportunity to write more or go deeper. If students are asking for this, that should be an easy “give!” 		